



News Tidbits

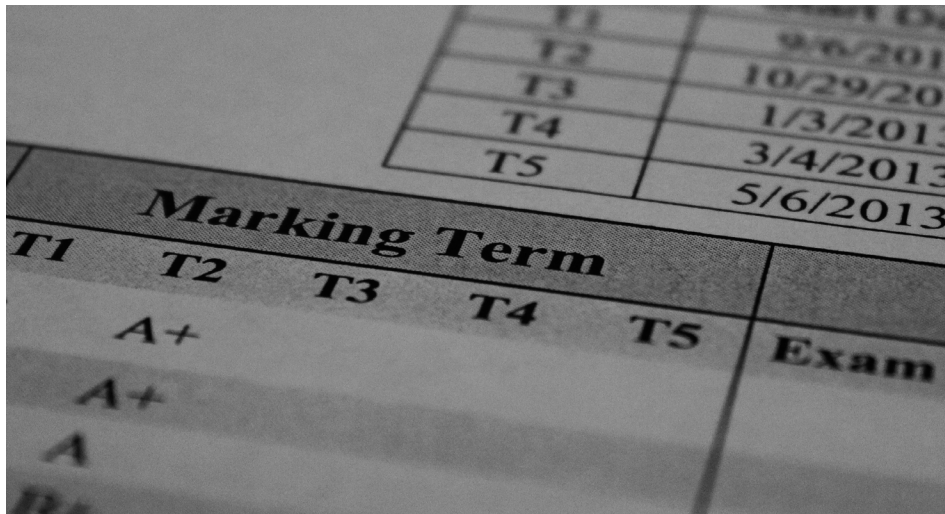
>>For Peter Robbins, the child actor who once voiced cartoon character Charlie Brown, growing up has not been easy. Robbins, the 56-year-old accused of stalking and threatening his ex-girlfriend, pleaded “notguilty” in San Diego Superior Court on 12 counts of criminal threats and stalking. Apparently, he was less than thrilled when he paid for his ex’s breast enhancement surgery, and then the relationship fell apart. Prosecutors allege that Robbins followed and threatened both his girlfriend and the plastic surgeon, forcing the surgeon to move out and hire an armed guard for her office. On New Year’s Eve, he allegedly confronted his ex in a hotel room and beat her and her dog, saying he would not stop unless he got a refund. Robbins faces up to 9 years in jail if convicted. (Washington Post)

>>Lance Armstrong, famed biker who, until recently, held seven consecutive titles at the Tour de France, has been officially recategorized by a library in Sydney, Australia. The Manly Library has decided to move Armstrong’s books, *The Lance Armstrong Performance Program* and *Lance Armstrong: World’s Greatest Champion*, to the fiction section. After being convicted of doping and stripped of his numerous awards, he recently admitted to using performance-enhancing drugs in each of his race victories. It remains to be seen what will become of the disgraced biker and his books at libraries worldwide. (New York Post)

>>United States Border Patrol agents have seized what seems to be the largest marijuana bust in history: about 14,150 pounds of it. A Mexican man driving a tractor trailer was pulled over at the Arizona border, and Customs agents soon made a surprising discovery in the form of 600 bales of marijuana. Officials say it was worth about \$12 million, knocking the previous top bust, 12,000 pounds at the same spot in 2010, out of the water. Authorities are still stunned at such a low-tech attempt. (Los Angeles Times)

>> The New Orleans Hornets announced during a press conference on January 24, 2013 that they are changing their name to the New Orleans Pelicans. The change comes after the owner’s decision to create a new bond with the city, since the pelican is the state bird of Louisiana. Pelicans don’t inspire fear, you say? The Hornets were never going to inspire fear. This is coming from an avid supporter of Anthony Davis’ unibrow. (ESPN)

>> An Ohio teacher is suing her former school. Maria Waltherr-Willard, 61, says she was fine teaching high schoolers, but when she was forced to teach 7th- and 8th-graders, she suffered “mental anguish” of a sort that “no reasonable person could be expected to endure.” Heed this warning sixties and fivesies, and move out of our way next time you see a BLS senior sweatshirt in the hallway. (The Week)



BLS MOVES TO FOUR TERMS

Bye Bye, Term V

BY SYLVIE STOLOFF, III &
ISABELLE DESISTO, III
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

With official grade reports sent home, not only at the end of each term but also halfway through, and mid-year exams underway in almost every subject, Boston Latin School students are no doubt experiencing the school’s infamous work overload. Luckily, after a meeting of the Faculty Senate and the School Site Council, the administration from all three Boston exam schools has decided to reduce our five terms to four by a majority vote of the faculty. This will hopefully alleviate students of at least some of the stress that comes with preparing for the final exams of each marking period.

Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy and the John D. O’Bryant School of Math and Science will institute this change beginning next September, condensing the current marking periods to four slightly longer terms. These new terms would end on November 9, February 1, April 12 and the last day of

school, which of course varies year to year. Seniors who currently have four terms will end school on June 6 as usual; under the new system, their final term will simply be shorter.

This change has received overwhelming support, partially thanks to the new Student Information System (SIS), which provides students and parents with constant access to their grades and largely eliminates the need for such frequent report cards. According to Mr. Montague, the extra time in each term will “reduce anxiety and pressure.” Ms. Kilbourn agrees, adding that: “[It is] better for teachers to use their time to support learning,” instead of constantly processing grades. “Students are tested too much anyway,” she says. Concerning potential skeptics, Dr. Mooney Teta says that although there will be fewer opportunities to compensate in students’ year grades for less successful marking periods, they will have more tests and assignments within each term to balance any low scores.

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Senator Brownsberger



SENATOR BROWNSBERGER VISITED AN AP GOVERNMENT CLASS

BY MARCELLA CARUSO, II
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

On December 14, politics came to life for Ms. Elliot’s AP Government class when Senator Will Brownsberger came to talk. Senator Brownsberger, who represents Fenway, Watertown, Allston, Brighton, Belmont and Back Bay in the State Senate, gave students the opportunity to ask questions about politics, his job and how he got there.

Having started out in computer systems development for Wall Street

Investment Banks, Senator Brownsberger’s political career began with a simple street traffic problem. It bothered the Senator enough to bring the issue to the attention of his local town council in Belmont, where he soon joined as a member. From there, he moved up the ranks to the Arlington-Belmont-Cambridge Stormwater Flooding Board, Belmont Board of Selectmen, the Massachusetts House of Representatives and eventually to the Massachusetts State Senate.

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Model United Nations

BY ALICE XIAO, II
NEWS EDITOR

Do not feel ashamed if you thought Model UN was a fashion group. After all, it is an extremely good looking bunch.

Model United Nations is much more than just a simulation of the United Nations (UN). Through weekly meetings, high schoolers engage in spirited debate and diplomacy and learn the ins and outs of conflict resolution. They are provided with a unique opportunity to experience hands-on what it feels like to solve both real and imagined issues that plague the world, with topics that range from drone warfare in the Middle East and the overpopulation crisis to the Tooth Fairy’s dental trade. Delegates often find that it is much more challenging than they first imagined, but also extremely rewarding. “MUN has helped me become better versed on the world past and present, made me more comfortable with public speaking and helped me gain an understanding of the culture and politics around me,” reflects Co-President Kayla McLaughlin (I).

Started in 2004, Boston Latin School MUN was composed of a dedicated 10 members. The road to success was a bumpy one: at one time, the club dwindled down to only a handful of regular delegates. Since then, the club has expanded to a core of 40 members from sixies to seniors. Steering this ship is no easy task: Co-Presidents Anthony Cheung (I) and Kayla McLaughlin, Vice President Kenneth Tang (I), Treasurer Abdirizak Abdi (I) and Alice Xiao (II) are all officers who strive to make the club a success.

As January wraps up, MUN members are looking forward to two major college conferences: one at Harvard and the other at Boston University. Such conferences serve as the main platform for competition. Jane Chuprin (I) explains, “we spend all year perfecting our writing and debating skills, and conferences are an opportunity to show off what we accomplished.” Many members are especially excited about the Harvard MUN conference. First founded in 1927 as Harvard Model League of Nations, it is hailed as “the oldest, largest and most prestigious United Nations simulation for high school students held in the United States” on its website. Cheung comments on the increased enthusiasm for conferences: “We’re going to Harvard MUN for the second time, but this year we’re bringing a much larger group of about 20 members,” he says.

BLS MUN endeavors to be as inclusive as possible to both neophytes and master debaters alike. “The variety of conferences gives our members the opportunity to participate, no matter what their skill level is,” comments McLaughlin. Besides the more competitive college conferences, members also engage in lively high school ones such as those at Catholic Memorial and St. John’s Preparatory School. An ultimate goal of BLS Model UN is to include more exciting field trips. As Cheung says, “We’re planning a trip to New York to visit the United Nations building itself. We’ve talked about it in previous years but this year we have solid plans for going to New York. Hopefully it will be an overnight trip.” For any readers out there looking to expand their horizons and enlighten their minds, this sensational club meets MUNDays in Room 207, Ms. Moon’s room.

NEWS

Editors' Note

Dear beloved Argo readers,

This is how much I love you: enough to sit here with six extremely crazy Layout minions on Friday at 10 o'clock putting it all together; enough to chase down student-drawn comic strips (new feature on page 6!) just to eke a few more laughs from you; enough to hound writers of all grade levels; enough to send poor Alex and Jaemin around school taking record number of student photos; enough to conduct not one, but two surveys; enough to up the number

of school-related articles (and one day we will reach 100%!)... This year from the Argo is one of experiments.

Whether or not you love or hate the changes, I hope you appreciate all the hours the Argo staff poured into these sixteen pages to make each issue better than the last. After a bit of a winter break, we now bring you in the new year another issue filled with everything you need to know to be an "engaged citizen" student of BLS.

As always, send all comments to

blsargo@gmail.com (especially if you want to become an Argo zombie - I mean, staffer).

Oh, and also: is it hot in here or is it just you? Oh, no, I'm not hitting on you, it's just time for the Argo's annual VALENTINE'S CARNATION FUNDRAISER! (details on pg 16). If you love the first amendment at all (and of course you do, you're an American), buy some and support your one and only school newspaper!

Your Editors in Chief
Nhu Le & Alec MacNeil

The Flu Sweeps Through Boston

By JONATHAN LI, VI
& JEFFREY ZHOU, V
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

In the midst of our hectic school report cards, tests, and studies, comes the wonderfully convenient flu season! You may be noticing that there are a growing number of absent classmates in your classes; while eyeing their empty seats cautiously, you pray not to join them. With more and more people getting sick, the flu has become a major concern to people across the nation. It has also become a problem right here in Boston, where Mayor Menino has declared a "public health emergency." This widespread flu has caused some mild panic, but fear no longer! Knowing about it can help you defend yourself against it, and get informed to put your mind at ease.

But let's say you're the skeptical type. "Why is the flu such a big deal anyways?" Influenza (commonly referred to as the "flu") is a severe disease caused by an RNA virus. It usually spreads through coughs and sneezes, and breathe within a close proximity to the infected person. Each year, there are roughly 200,000 people hospitalized and anywhere from 3,000 to 49,000 people killed annually by the flu. Now with the flu season worsening and expanding, it isn't looking any better. The annual flu season usually takes place around late January and early February, but this particular year,

the flu arrived early: in the first week of December. This abnormality gives us reason to predict a severe flu season. The flu is not only very contagious; it is quick to infest your body without attention or immediate care. The flu is also capable of causing serious infections in the lungs, inducing illness and sometimes death. The most venerable people are the elderly, pregnant women, and young children.

The symptoms of the flu are often confused with those of the common cold. Though they have many similar symptoms, the ones caused by the flu are often more severe. The major symptom that separates flu from a cold is an extreme fever. A strep throat and runny-nose are signs of a minor cold; while nausea, head-aches, vomiting and high fever can be associated with the more serious flu. Along with these symptoms, fatigue is also a revealing factor. The flu fights your body's immune system and weakens and tires out your body. Now that you know the differences and fine lines between a cold and the flu, can you diagnose anyone according to these symptoms?

You might be asking yourself, "What is my defense against this evil, foreboding plague?" First and foremost, get yourself vaccinated! It's really important that you and your family get vaccinated so that your bodies are protected against the flu. If you haven't already, rush to the doctor! Try not to touch your hands to your mouth

or face, as this is one of the ways the flu can spread. Other than that, your best hope is the stay as sanitary as possible, by washing your hands frequently and being cautious of your surroundings. If you know someone who has the flu, most definitely stay away from them. Though they may be your best friend, sibling, or classmate begging you for company, resist the temptation to embrace them and instead protect yourself! It won't do them or you any good by infecting yourself as well.

If you already have the flu, you have quite a different set of rules to follow when it comes to "protecting against the flu." First off, don't come to school! While it is obvious common sense to many, some of the bed-ridden still persevere to go to school. For whatever reason I cannot fathom; if out of some ignorance, misplaced sense of self-righteousness, or pure delusion that you still consider coming to class...don't. Doing so will delay your health restoration and infect your classmates and friends as well. The best method is to stay in bed, and follow the doctor's orders until your full recovery.

This vicious sickness brings upon our society some dark, confusing times: haunting us with the evil essence of the flu. But I ask of you this: to look towards tomorrow, the days of spring, and our bright future with hope. The flu epidemic will fall, and humanity will carry on. "The night is darkest before the dawn."

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Boston Latin School

Argo

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The Argo strives, in accordance with the highest standards of journalism, to inform and inspire its readers, to provide a forum for constructive debate, and to foster understanding among all members of the Boston Latin School community.

ARGO

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Newspaper Competition

Excellence in Sports Writing

2007 Honorable Mention

Greater Boston High School

Newspaper Competition

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2007 First Place

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2007 Honorable Mention

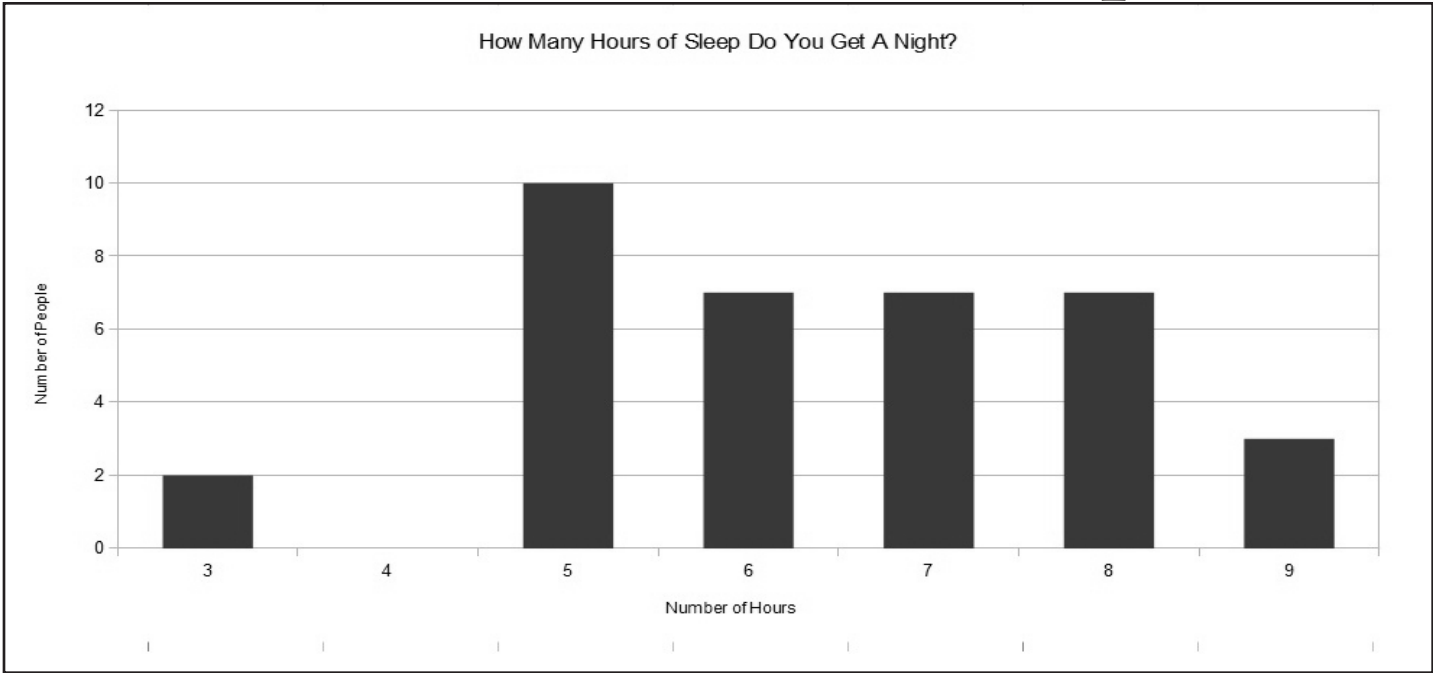
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NEWS

Students Need Sleep



By **JONATHAN ZOU, IV**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students across the country start each school day with the almost insufferable struggle between the comforting protection of warm bed sheets and the sharp cries of the alarm clock—they are forced to stumble out of bed between 5:30 and 6:30 each morning. Those students feel the usual consequences: drowsiness, inattentiveness, memory impairment and lack of energy. These are all symptoms of what has become the bane of adolescents: sleep deprivation. Known less formally by its epithet, “the food of the brain,” the importance of sleep cannot be stressed enough.

Recent studies have stressed the crucial role sleep plays in numerous aspects of our lives. The belief that people need less and less sleep as they grow older has been debunked by recent studies that reveal that high school students require between nine and ten hours of sleep every day to

maintain optimal performance level. That is just slightly below the amount of sleep recommended for children between the ages of five and twelve. An experiment done at Harvard Medical School and Trent University in Canada showed that students improve their learning through sleep, and their learning declines without it. Sleep after a lesson is as important as a good night’s sleep before a test or exam. Researchers at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans reported that teenagers who sleep for at least eight hours every night have a 68 percent lower risk of getting a sports injury compared to those who sleep less. Findings from the Sleep Foundation poll show that only 20 percent of high school students across America get the recommended nine to ten hours on school nights. Of that 20 percent, 80 percent get As and Bs in school. The studies reinforce that learning a new task is greatly helped by sound sleep and that a student’s ability to remember things is mediated by sleep.

One cause of such sleep deprivation is that circadian rhythms, the biological and psychological processes that follow the cycle of the 24-hour internal clock, delay the time adolescents begin to feel sleepy to around eleven o’clock or later, as opposed to the eight to nine o’clock time that younger children feel. As

a result, teenagers are naturally less able to fall asleep early and wake up early. Studies also show that the brain functionality when greatly deprived of sleep is similar to that of somebody that has just consumed alcohol. Many car accidents have actually been linked to the lack of sleep. Growing evidence suggests that a lack of sleep also increases the risk of many imminent health problems which include diabetes, cardiovascular disease, heart attacks, stroke, depression, high blood pressure, obesity and various infections.

Some school districts have made efforts to push school start times to later in the morning. Conflicting bus schedules, extracurricular activities and after school sports, however, make it extremely difficult to make the change. A natural, socially acceptable solution is to drink coffee or tea, but such liquids only mask the underlying biological reason for our sleep habits and only give temporary alertness during the day. Additionally, caffeine may even interfere with sleep at night.

Sleep experts have been coming up with solutions to the sleeping problems. Being more efficient with homework, reducing electronic screen exposure after dinner, cutting out caffeine after lunchtime and well-timed short naps are among the suggestions. A dark environment during bedtime and a bright environment in the morning can help signal the body when to go to bed and when to wake up. Winding down and doing more relaxing activities before bedtime makes falling asleep easier. Yet remedying a poor sleep schedule, as most students should know, is easier said than done.

a local issue.”

Although he admits, “I like to talk about [controversial issues]... and evolve,” he certainly cares about the opinions of the people that he represents. Just in taking time off his busy schedule to visit BLS students shows his dedication in serving the people. He even has a picture on his website of himself and the BLS novice crew team at a regatta.

When asked where he saw his political career going in the future, Senator Brownsberger responded, “I’m glad to be in the State Senate, I just got here and I intend to do that job for a while... I’m not skipping up the ladder, I’m doing the job, I’m learning as I go and I’d be very happy to stay here for the duration of my career.”

Spotlight

Mr. Montague



By **MIKE SKERRETT, II**
NEWS EDITOR

For upperclassmen at Boston Latin School, there is perhaps no faculty member more beloved than Mr. Montague. You may have seen the famed Director of Guidance in the halls, greeting every other student by name, making a joke and patting them on the back. An Eagle Scout and the College Admission Book’s January counselor of the month, Mr. Montague has helped hundreds of students navigate the seemingly impossible pathways of high school and the college admission process.

Montague, who is in his fourteenth year at Boston Latin, never set out to be a guidance counselor, or even a teacher. After taking a year off after high school to work at a jewelry factory, he realized he needed to make a change. “I really had to go to college,” he says, “I didn’t want to do that for the rest of my life.” He then moved on to Providence College in Rhode Island, aiming to study math with his sights set on being a systems analyst for International Business Machines (IBM). After an interview with the technology giant he, however, realized he did not want to do that either.

Then it was back to his old high school, Bishop Hendricken High School in Rhode Island, to teach math and “buy some time.” He had once written for the school newspaper and ran track there (although Montague assures me, he was not any good; the only reason he stayed on the track team was because they did not cut anyone) and due to his skipping a grade when he was younger, he graduated as a 16-year-old “rather immature” senior.

“I knew the math pretty well,” Montague notes, “but I didn’t understand the students very well.” To remedy this, he got a Masters degree in counselor education from the University of Rhode Island. After transitioning to counseling and spending 18 years at his parochial high school, he got a job on the Admissions and Guidance Services team on College Board, the organization responsible for the dozens of tests Montague now prepares students for. After 13 years, he decided it was time to try something new and moved on to Boston Latin School, where he has stayed since.

Although one might imagine the job to be unpleasant, since dealing with stressed teenagers has been described by experts and amateurs alike as harrowing at best, Montague smiles and says the students are the best part of his job. “The fact that I get to interact and work with different kinds of students who are well motivated...Every day I learn a lot from different students. That’s the best part.”



DESKS ARE COMFORTABLE WHEN YOU'VE ONLY SLEPT TWO HOURS

SENATOR BROWNSBERGER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Senator Brownsberger is very focused on his constituents, as one can see by looking on his website. In the center of the page is: “Focus on the Green Line: How do we make it better?” Fixing the MBTA is a big issue that he is currently working on. He revealed that the MBTA is largely paid for by state taxes, which is contrary to what many citizens believe. Out of the MBTA’s total budget of \$1.7 billion, only \$900 million come from ticket sales. Senator Brownsberger is also passionate about the environment and getting Massachusetts to lower its carbon footprint. At the moment, he is very concerned with climate change and rising

sea levels. He was a driving force in the 2008 Global Warming Solution, as well as the initiative to reduce greenhouse gases in Massachusetts. He also practices what he preaches: his house is 85 percent below the New England average in terms of environmental friendliness.

“I try to do what’s right,” he said, “and it’s all I really can do.” This encompasses who the senator is as a politician and why he was such a fitting choice as the AP Government class’s speaker. In addition to being a self-proclaimed “anti-gun zelig,” Senator Brownsberger is also a staunch supporter of gay marriage and a woman’s right to choose, which he believes are important civil rights issues. “I don’t see those as local issues,” he said, “any more than I see voting as

Spotlight

Michael Surdek



By ALEC MACNEIL, I
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Let me tell you a story.

A member of the Italian aristocracy commissioned Michelangelo to sculpt a statue; it was to be the finest work Michelangelo was ever to create. On the very first day he began working on the job, Michelangelo rose from his slumber and sauntered to his employer's villa, where the statue was to be sculpted. He beheld the slab of marble provided for him for four hours, took an hour for lunch and then stared at the marble for another four hours before returning to his personal studio where he slept. Michelangelo repeated this process for four months. Baffled by the lack of progress, the aristocrat approached the great artist and said, "Michelangelo. It has been four months. What have you been doing in here?" Replied Michelangelo, "I've been working."

That slab of marble went on to become Michelangelo's David. If you felt you have heard this tale before, fear not; you are not suffering from vinsanity. Replace the word Michelangelo with God, the aristocrat with John Surdek, and David with Michael "Turd" Surdek, and all will become clear.

Surdek is a walking adonis; he's a passionate man with a soul engulfed in flame. As his Twitter bio will tell you, he is literally good at everything. Toss a football through the air, and he'll wrap his sausage sized fingers around it faster than you can say "Schmidt happens." Pass a hacky-sack at his chest and he'll give you the proverbial hands in a quick game of assassin. Need some groove in your life? Plug in his iPod and turn it on shuffle: you won't hear a single bad song. Pick him to be on your Kan-Jam team and you're guaranteed a win 120% of the time—that's right, he wins 20% of the Kan-Jam games he isn't even participating in. He's that good. Basically, he's America personified. He's the cool kid in the locker room. He's the cool uncle you wish was your real dad.

I won't mention that he's a three sport athlete...just kidding, I will. Give him a helmet and he'll be defensive captain of the varsity football team. Give him a stick and he'll play some Wolfpack puck. Give him a lacrosse stick and he'll play—you guessed it—lacrosse. Now I know exactly what you're thinking, folks: "Gee whiz, Al, when will Surdek's talents cease to emerge?" Good question. Answer: never. Perhaps this colossus's greatest talent is neither athletic nor academic nor miscellaneous; rather, it is the talent of friendship. As a fellow frequenter of the hallowed halls of the Garage Spot (affectionately known as the GSpot), I've become quite intimate with Michael. We've played Mario Kart: Double Dash together in real life; we've interior decorated garages together; hell, we held hands when we went to see Sinister in theaters. You could say that we do everything together, but that would be a total lie. Yet regardless of where he is or who he's with, I know that everybody (myself included) is getting the real Surdek.

At the end of the day, Michael is the opposite of scum

News

GOP Gears Up for 2016

JAKE ZHU, II
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the results of the recent presidential election now in the nation's rear-view mirror, many Republicans are preparing for the 2016 presidential campaign. The failure of Mitt Romney in the previous election year has prompted many Republicans to address the innate problems that have plagued their platform, including a failure to appeal to minorities and young people. Despite previous shortcomings, the Grand Old Party (GOP) is confident that the Republican hopefuls can make 2016 the rebirth of conservatism.

Florida Senator Marco Rubio hails as one of the GOP's rising stars. Upon the implementation of Arizona's controversial immigration law, Rubio likened the policy to that of totalitarian police states. As a Cuban American, he was a strong supporter of the Republican Party's version of the DREAM Act, which would provide permanent residency to certain illegal immigrants in the United States. Although his record is not much

young and enthusiastic conservative like Rubio.

Another popular candidate, Chris Christie, the Republican governor of New Jersey, enjoys a favorable approval rating of 72% in his firmly blue state. Christie has widespread appeal due to his bipartisanship and willingness to compromise with Democrats. In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Christie praised President Obama for his handling of the relief programs. Although this alienated a few hardcore Republicans, it nevertheless conveyed Christie as a moderate. Not to be outdone politically, Christie as a fiscal conservative is tough on public unions that have been vacuuming up taxpayers' money. He does, however, show a socially moderate side by vappointing the first Asian-American and the first openly gay man onto the New Jersey Supreme Court. Additionally, Christie's loud and offensive personality could be seen as a fresh contrast from the mundane and scripted dispositions of most politicians.

Louisiana governor and Indian-American Bobby Jindal, a new face to the conservative spectrum, shocked many of his followers

business and big banks." Having previously been appointed as the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Jindal is most notable for his contributions to public health policies. Although he isopposed to a federal government-run health insurance system, he fully endorses state efforts to reduce the number of uninsured citizens.

Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, another Republican candidate, is considered to be the wildcard of the 2016 Republican race. As the heir to his father Ron Paul's pertinacious libertarian following, a relentless force of political activists and campaign contributors, Rand Paul will push to return America to the days of small government and free markets. His strategy consists of mixing his fiscal conservatism with moderate social policies in an attempt to attract both discontented taxpayers and the young, socially liberal voters. In a Politico interview, Rand Paul expressed interests in working with Democrats to decrease prison sentences for marijuana users. In addition, he is against restrictions on civil liberties and has been a vocal opponent

of the PATRIOT Act, especially after Obama signed a four-year extension of the policy's main components. In terms of foreign policy, Paul stands out from the other Republicans because he says that he would not have voted for the invasion of Iraq. By questioning the idea that the United States' involvement "kills more terrorists than it creates" and speaking against American military bases instituted overseas, Paul has come across as a heretic to traditional Republicans. Nevertheless, his socially moderate stances will help him gain the votes of many young anti-war voters.

After the humiliating 2012 defeat, Republicans are hoping to come out of wilderness and prove their worth to the American people. When the election is in full swing 18 months from now, we will get our first look of the GOP version 2.0.

colleges will not accept anyone who has not passed four years of high school math, and this requirement will be extended to Boston schools within the next two or three years. Unlike the switch to four terms, this change has received mixed reactions. One 11th grader says, "I am a firm believer that math sucks!" To expand on this point, not everyone envisions a career dependent upon extensive knowledge of higher-level math such as Calculus or Statistics. Furthermore, others think that their electives could be better spent. Many students, however, are unaffected by this new policy as they already plan on taking math their senior year.

Though BLS often seems deeply rooted in tradition, this year forecasts several changes to our classical conventions, hopefully for the better. So hang in there, BLS—next year you will only have to get eight report cards instead of 10!



FROM THE TOP-LEFT GOING CLOCKWISE: RUBIO, CHRISTIE, PAUL, AND JINDAL

different from that of other Republican stalwarts, Rubio's unconventional belief concerning unlawful immigration makes him able to attract the essential Hispanic vote. Although historically the GOP has a proclivity for older and more venerable candidates, it would not pass up on a

when he called for a purgation of the Republican Party so that a more intelligent and practical approach to conservatism can develop. As an outlier in his own party, Jindal is discontent with conservatives and warns, "[W]e've got to make sure that we are not the party of big

teachers are eager to offer new and exciting classes. Ms. Figueroa, who teaches English, believes that BLS students are ready for college-level courses, so it would be beneficial for all to include a wider array of choices beyond the generic "English 12." She also points to the upside for teachers, who would be interested in teaching a larger variety; she herself would love to teach Russian Literature. This would also be great for students who want to take more creative courses without having to sacrifice an academic elective.

Despite this, there is more in store for future generations of Latin scholars—it has recently been decided that four years of high school math will be required of all seniors upon graduation. While many often point fingers at the BLS Administration for the institution of new policies, this one is on the College Board! Information from Mr. Flynn confirms that state

BLS MOVES TO FOUR TERMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Students, too, are enthusiastic about the prospect of having four terms, since the current system requires a grade report sent home virtually every month, and consequently calls for numerous final tests and projects.

Although Dr. Mooney Teta affirms that the "curriculum standards will be maintained for each course," there is talk of possibly introducing semester-based courses now that our school year can be easily split in half. These would involve classes that terminate halfway through the year, so that students could take more courses per year specific to their spheres of interest. Semester courses have proven successful in many other schools, but BLS is still exploring the idea and it is unclear when, if at all, this could become a reality. Nevertheless,

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Aaron Swartz: Hero or Hacker?

By **RICHARD FU, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Aaron Swartz. You may know him, you may not. Some may think of him as the Reddit guy. Others may think of him as a “thief.” For those who are not aware, Mr. Swartz was a co-founder of “Reddit,” (a social news and entertainment website) as well as a computer programmer, writer, political organizer and Internet activist. In addition, Mr. Swartz was extremely interested in sociology, civic awareness and activism, leading him to form the online group “Demand Progress” and work with both United States or international activist groups, such as Rootstrickers and Avaaz. A heavy advocate for freeing information online, Mr. Swartz was recently in the spotlight for downloading 20 percent of the government’s federal court database, a storage bank of information that charges user subscription fees.

On January 6, 2011, Mr. Swartz was arrested by federal authorities on account of downloading academic journals from Journal Storage (JSTOR), a digital library of journals and articles. He did this by going into an unlocked computer wiring closet at MIT in September 2010 and then changing an IP address on a university computer in

order to download the journals from JSTOR, which usually requires fees from the users., Mr. Swartz was charged with 13 full accounts of violating the “Computer Fraud and Abuse Act” because of his actions and accumulated a total of one million dollars in fines and up to 35 years in prison. The “Computer Fraud and Abuse Act” is very open to interpretation. Prosecutors can stretch this act to cover misdeeds that barely qualify as illegal, let alone acts that require the intervention of the full weight of the U.S. government. According to Jake Zhu (II), this act “seems like something out of the pages of the PATRIOT Act. The government is granted the right to infringe upon your personal liberties and confiscate your information if the government deems it to be falsified or illegal. The problem here is that the illegality of your actions is often equivocal.” In the case of Mr. Swartz, this is exactly what happened. The malfeasance of his actions was equivocal, leading to his sentence. As a result, Mr. Swartz committed suicide on January 11, 2013.

After this incident, there has been a surge of outrage at the government for using technology and Aaron Swartz as a message to “hackers.” According to the evidence presented at Aaron Swartz’s



1986 - 2013

trial, Mr. Swartz did not do any hacking in any way, shape or form. Alex Stamos, the witness expert who was planning to testify for Swartz, was reported to have said, “Aaron did not “hack” the JSTOR website for all reasonable definitions of “hack.” Aaron wrote a handful of basic python scripts that first discovered the URLs of journal articles and then used cURL to request them. Aaron did not use parameter tampering, break a CAPTCHA, or do anything more complicated

than call a basic command line tool that downloads a file in the same manner as right-clicking and choosing “Save As” from your favorite browser.” According to the defense of the charges against Swartz made by Carmen M. Ortiz in 2011, “Stealing is stealing, whether you use a computer command or a crowbar, and whether you take documents, data, or dollars.” Based on these two opposing views, it seems that technology has taken a larger role in the government’s position in sending messages to hackers about who is “in command.” The government did not treat Mr. Swartz as a human; they treated him as an example to the “hacker community.” It was an intimidation tactic that had nothing to do with justice but everything to do with a battle over power.

So what does this mean for the future use of technology? Will it be used as an attempt to spread knowledge, much like how Mr. Swartz used it, or will it be another attempt by the government to crack down on groups that try to oppose and fight their policies? It seems that as the future unravels, the purpose and usage of technology will become more and more unclear until it resembles something like a world of gray, if it has not come to that already.

Curious about Curiosity

A New Way of Learning

By **ANTON XUE, II**
ASSISTANT SciTECH EDITOR

On July 21, 1969, Neil Armstrong made the now-famous statement, “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” Over 40 years later, on November 26, 2011, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, better known as NASA, deployed a car-sized robotic rover named Curiosity to explore the surface of Mars. On August 6, 2012, the rover successfully landed on Aeolis Palus in Gale Crater on Mars, only 2.4 kilometers away from the rover’s initial target after a journey of over 563 kilometers. The deployment of Curiosity marks a start in furthering our understanding of Mars. Along with the investigation of the climate and the geology of Martian terrain, the rover also seeks to

Mars, possibly indicating that this soil substance is fairly consistent throughout the surface of Mars. Furthermore, a “Sample Analysis at Mars” instrument (SAM) was used to heat the dirt to 800 degrees Celsius and to examine the gases released, the most common of which were water vapor and carbon dioxide.

While some may question the aesthetic designs of Curiosity, do not be fooled, this is one tough and curious robot. Weighing in at 899 kilograms with dimensions of 2.9 by 2.7 meters, Curiosity packs 80 kilograms of scientific instruments in its arsenal and stands proudly at 2.2 meters tall. Powered by a radioisotope thermoelectric generator (RTG), which produces electricity from the natural decay of radioactive isotopes, such as the 4.8 kilograms of plutonium-238 supplied by the U.S. Department of Energy, Curiosity is able to get constant power during all seasons and all hours of the day—for about 14 years. Curiosity also rides on six 50 centimeter diameter wheels with rocker-bogie style suspension, all equipped with cleats and independently geared and actuated, thus providing greater control and maneuverability moving over rocks and sand dunes up to 12.5 degrees. The rover is also able to get over obstacles of 65 centimeters in height, and based on power levels, terrain, visibility and other factors, Curiosity is able to travel about 200 meters per day by automatic navigation, although it can travel up to 90 meters per hour. In addition to this, the rover carries two on-board computers called “Rover Computer Element” (RCE). Of the two, one functions as the main computer while the other functions as back-up. This device contains radiation hardened memory to counter the high levels of radiation that exist on Mars’s surface.

While Curiosity marks another jump in the exploration of outer space, it is merely a stepping stone for many future operations, such as a potential unmanned 2020 rover mission, which was announced by NASA on December 4, 2012. What will await us next? Only time will tell.

By **JOHN ZHANG, III**
STAFF WRITER

“I know kung fu” were the words uttered by Neo, the protagonist from The Matrix, a film that takes place in a science fiction world where humans are able to learn any skill simply by plugging themselves into a computer. Even with the rapid pace of technological innovation, we are still nowhere near the possibility of instantaneous skill mastery, but thanks to the Internet, we have the next best thing.

Online education is still a relatively new and unexplored concept that is currently gaining more recognition. Since its creation in the early 1960s, the Internet has been used by countless people across the globe to share data and—because learning is essentially the acquisition of knowledge—it makes an excellent platform for the distribution of information. The year 2012 was a good year for the online-learning community. Recently, there have been many new additions to the growing community of online learners including several courses from MIT and Harvard.

One appeal of online education is that one does not have to pay a single penny for most of the courses. If you want to learn programming, for example, there is a multitude of books and tutorials you can purchase to help you learn. The same information, however, is available on websites like “TheNewBoston” and “W3Schools” at a staggering cost of zero dollars. Books and other resources are certainly helpful when learning, but there is no reason to pay outlandish amounts for books when there is an abundance of free content available on the Internet. If you are not already taking advantage of this amazing free resource, you should definitely start immediately.

Another appeal of online learning is its wide range of simple and complex topics. There is an innumerable amount of different courses available in English as well as nine other languages you may not have known to exist. You really can

learn almost everything imaginable on the Internet. Ever wonder how to learn to speak a new language or understand quantum physics? You can even learn how to resuscitate a drowning lizard! YouTube channels like “Minute Physics” and “Numberphile” do a great job of explaining complex concepts succinctly. But if you have time, there are also full-length and detailed lectures available from various colleges and universities like Stanford, MIT and Berkley on sites such as “OpenCourseWare” and “edX.”

Watching a two-hour lecture on a topic that would normally bore you to death, however, is not going to suddenly become the most interesting thing in the world just because you are watching it on the Internet. The motto “no pain no gain” holds true in regard to online education, which only benefit one proportionally to one’s investment. Online education, however, is flexible and gives students the ability to manage their own time. Having taken a course in computer science and having learned how to spin a pen during my free time using the Internet while juggling homework and extracurricular activities, I can testify that all students have the ability to do so if they are willing to apply themselves and put in the necessary effort.

Hopefully with the increase in interest of this new platform for learning, there will be many more legitimate ways to learn online. Even people like Bill Gates have taken interest in online education, funding sites such as “Khan Academy,” which has over 3000 videos spanning various topics from mathematics to history. There is an abundance of resources available on the Internet, but a good place to start is “The No Excuse List,” a collection of the best places to learn on the Internet. Ultimately, the Internet is a double-edged sword: it could keep people glued to their monitors looking at funny pictures of cats or be the greatest free resource in the world for learning something new.



WALL-E TAKES MARS

examine whether or not environmental conditions within Gale Crater would be suitable to support life. It investigates the building blocks of life—carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus and sulfur. To date, the rover has collected and examined many soil samples on Mars, which Ken Edgett, the principal investigator for a camera that takes close-up images, described as “sort of like these artificial sweeteners in term of size, finer than sugar but coarser than something like flour.” These soil samples were similar to those found by the Opportunity and Spirit rovers during their years of operation on other parts of

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

US Criminal Justice System: Rehab or Retribution?

NOTE: JAKE ZHANG AND JACOB METZ-LERMAN ARE BOTH FOUR-YEAR MEMBERS OF THE BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL DEBATE TEAM, WHICH RECENTLY DEBATED AT THE NATIONAL LEXINGTON WINTER INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT. THE ARTICLES ARE ADAPTED FROM THEIR RESPONSES TO THE TOPIC, WHICH WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE TOURNAMENT’S DEBATE.

Pro

By JAKE ZHANG, I
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Rehabilitation should be valued over retribution. The scientific capabilities of drug and mental health rehabilitation have been proven successful in reforming prisoners, and will help reduce the number of inmates in prisons as well as the number of criminals on the streets. For this topic, it is important to consider both the economic and practical reasons for favoring rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation costs less than retribution. According to the New York Times, the cost of rehabilitation is two thousand dollars compared to retribution’s thirty thousand dollars per year. This calculation does not include the fact that inmates will leave the justice system earlier on average than inmates who are not rehabilitated, saving additional thousands of dollars in taxpayer funds. According to the US Bureau of Justice Statistics, the federal prison system costs 71 billion dollars per year. A rehabilitation program would cost only 4.5 billion dollars per year. Keeping an estimated 2.5 million Americans behind bars also results in an annual 100-billion-dollar loss in Gross Domestic Product. Rehabilitation would allow more inmates to join the American workforce and prevent unnecessary government expenditure.

Rehabilitation works. Tulane University conducted a program where convicts received education, counseling, vocational training and job placement assistance. Of all the convicts who were then released, only 5.6 percent returned to prison, compared to the usual 65 percent. Rehabilitation would also reduce the number of inmates in prison. According to the Massachusetts Department of Correction, half of all prisoners are charged with drug-related crimes. Half of these are related to marijuana, which is relatively easy to rehabilitate. Drug abuse should

be treated like alcohol abuse: treated and helped. Only if the drug addict commits a crime while intoxicated should they be imprisoned. According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, drug rehabilitation programs have a successful rate of 66 percent after one year and 86 percent after five years.

Retribution is counterproductive to improving society. Retribution is an antiquated method based on revenge by dictators dating back to before Hammurabi. The idea of taking someone’s hand, or life, because of their transgression against society is archaic and ineffective.

Retribution does little to fix the problem of crime. According to the Massachusetts Department of Correction, 70 percent of all prisoners return to prison after 18 months. This shows that retribution does not act as a deterrent to criminals, who continue to commit crime after crime. Retribution or even the threat of retribution does nothing to stop offenders from repeating their crimes. In the same report by the Massachusetts Department of Correction, criminals are desensitized by the retribution-model judiciary system because they are used to the cycle of crime, incarceration and release. Because they are released into the same community without adequate housing and job opportunities, they are much more likely to commit the same crimes. Retribution is a primitive, antiquated model that has failed to work in the past and is currently failing America. Rehabilitation, on the other hand, offers a cure to the epidemic of drug abuse and overcrowded prisons.

Rehabilitation solves the root of the problem: social inequity and job displacement that makes people criminals in the first place. In order for America to become a safer place to live, rehabilitation must be valued over retribution.

Con

By JACOB METZ-LERMAN, I
NEWS EDITOR

Retribution should be valued over rehabilitation. Criminals are not people that need to be rehabilitated; they are the symptoms of a broken system. Neither rehabilitation nor retribution makes any sense and does not provide security to other citizens. Criminals are born from a society that needs to be rehabilitated.

Rehabilitation involves recreating a criminal or corrupt person into a “better citizen,” attempting to correct their flaws by somehow altering their behavior. Yet where and how does one draw the line between humane and inhumane rehabilitation? One can see the logic in helping a drug addict get over his or her addiction, but this line becomes blurry when we take the example of a serial rapist being chemically castrated by a damaging poison. When we try to alter a person’s life and ability to function, we reduce his or her humanity. The constraints of justice limit giving the government the power to dehumanize our criminals this way.

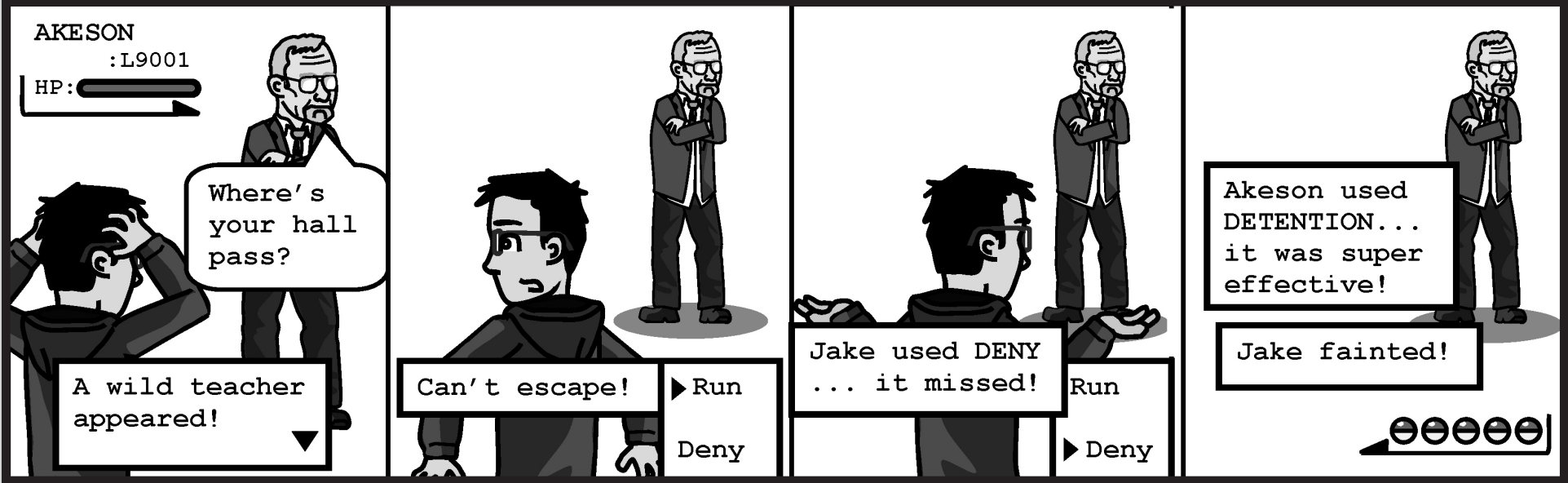
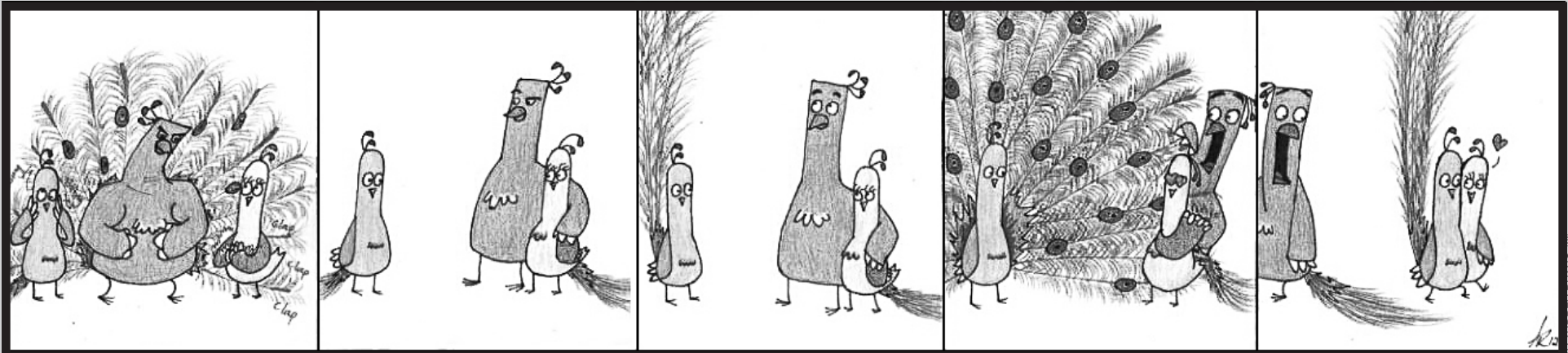
Rehabilitation simply repeats the same faulty logic of our justice system. It does nothing to address the complexity of crimes, and fails to offer a solution for the cause of the majority of crimes. According to Boston public defender Azunlatos, crimes are committed because of four causes: poverty, addiction, passion and mental illness, typically a conglomerate of those four. Rehabilitation does nothing to directly address these causes and thus has no actual impact on crime and the safety of citizens. Therefore in order to achieve justice, there must be a fair set of laws, which rehabilitation itself, similar to the United States’ criminal justice system, fails to do as it inherently makes the assumptions that all criminals are the same. Rehabilitation ignores the

subcategories of the causes for crime, and ultimately prolongs instead of solving the problem.

The criminal justice system is a misnomer; there is no actual justice within. This is evident via the mountain of inequalities and disproportionate harm it does to specific groups in our country. At the core, we see that equity manifestations of laws must apply to all citizens equally for them to be just. Racism is inherent in the system by over arresting and policing of communities of color. Under the U.S. justice system, there are higher penalties for drugs and crimes where policing specifically targets people of color, higher sentences for crack than powder cocaine and higher penalties for shoplifting expensive items than for committing white collar crimes of similar or more value. For example, the Swedish bank Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) got charged for laundering money for Mexican drug cartels, the government and even funding Al-Qaeda. Their punishment? They were fined 1.9 billion dollars, or in other words, four and a half weeks of profit. A man who is caught shoplifting one hundred dollars on three separate occasions can be sentenced up to 20 years. In addition, the demographic of prison population does not accurately represent the demographics of those who commit crimes. According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), blacks are incarcerated at six times the rate of whites. Thus with the logic of rehabilitation, there is a need to rehabilitate poor African American men (who define the majority of prisoners).

Therefore, neither rehabilitation nor retribution achieves justice as the criminal justice system itself is flawed.

BLS FUNNIES



FORUM

Five is Greater Than Four

By **Terri Ni, IV**
Staff Writer

For the past few months, teachers have been complaining about filling out ten grade reports a year. This has resulted in the school’s decision to divide the school year into four terms, rather than five. This will mean fewer progress reports and fewer report cards to take home and get signed. So why are people against such a change? It turns out many things we take for granted are at stake with the shift to four terms. Without a fifth term, terms will end at inconvenient times, students will have fewer chances to improve their grades and the school’s tradition will be lost. Besides, there are better ways to save the hassle of reports without removing a term.

What I love most about Boston Latin School is that the terms end right before vacations. This gives students a chance to relax after a week of final exams; no one needs to worry about spending his or her vacation hunched over a gigantic textbook. In fact, I have friends from other schools who complain about the work they receive during break because their terms extend past vacation. When BLS shifts to four terms, students will have to worry about a bundle of tests and extra homework during long breaks. Also, a term ending a week after break is simply inconvenient and unnecessary.

Not only does the missing term

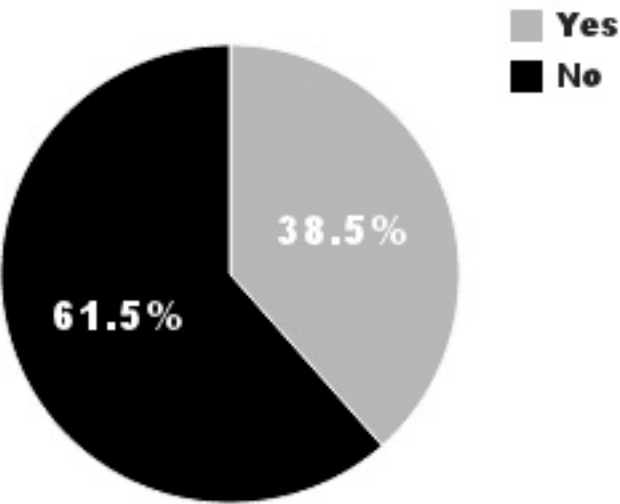
clash with the established term structure, but it also gives students fewer chances to work for better term grades. Let’s face it: everyone at BLS wants good grades. The extra term presents students with a chance to raise their GPA. With five terms averaged into our final grades instead of four, each term a less overall weight.

tradition, a tradition as old as Boston Latin students taking Latin class.

Despite my vehemence against the removal of the last term, however, I understand the reasons for the change. Ten grade reports a year is too much for both the students and the teachers, especially when the new online grading system is accessible to all BPS students and teachers. Therefore, I suggest that the school system revert to five terms with no progress reports. Students should be able to ask their teachers for progress reports during the middle of the term and all failing students must receive one to be signed. In fact, our original system requires fewer reports than the new system. In this system, teachers still need to complete eight reports each year, whereas the old system required teachers to complete only five reports each year.

There are certainly some recent changes at BLS I support. For instance, I love that the library hours have been extended and I rejoiced when the administration brought back art classes for sixies. I cannot, however, endure the change to four terms. The things we used to take for granted, like restful school breaks, stress relief and special traditions will soon be lost. Why not just remove the required progress reports and leave the terms alone?

Should BLS Have 4 Terms?



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Thus, there will be much more anxiety in the student body when the four-term structure is implemented. When I first entered BLS I was shocked to discover there were five terms, but I soon realized that these terms were part of the unique pace of life at our school. We should take pride in the distinctiveness of our five terms - it’s another reason students want to come and make our school stand out. Removing the fifth term is breaking

SIS – Stupid, Insufferable System?

By **Kerry Lydon, I**
Contributing Writer

Over this school year, many students at BLS have become familiar with the Student Information System (SIS), an online computer system that is part of BPS’s recent attempt to integrate technology into its schools. Its purpose is to improve communication between parents, teachers and students, who can log on and view their grades and assignments. While in some ways it is a blessing, in others, it is a terrible, terrible curse.

On the one hand, we now potentially have access to our grades as soon as the teacher posts them. I use the word “potentially” because some teachers are better than others at utilizing the technology, so how up-to-date the information is can differ. This, however, is understandable when using a new tool such as SIS—it takes some getting used to. So far the system has relieved a lot of the stress and tension that accompanies waiting to learn the latest grade on a project or test. Students have praised SIS for alleviating the ambiguity that can bother students in the middle of a term.

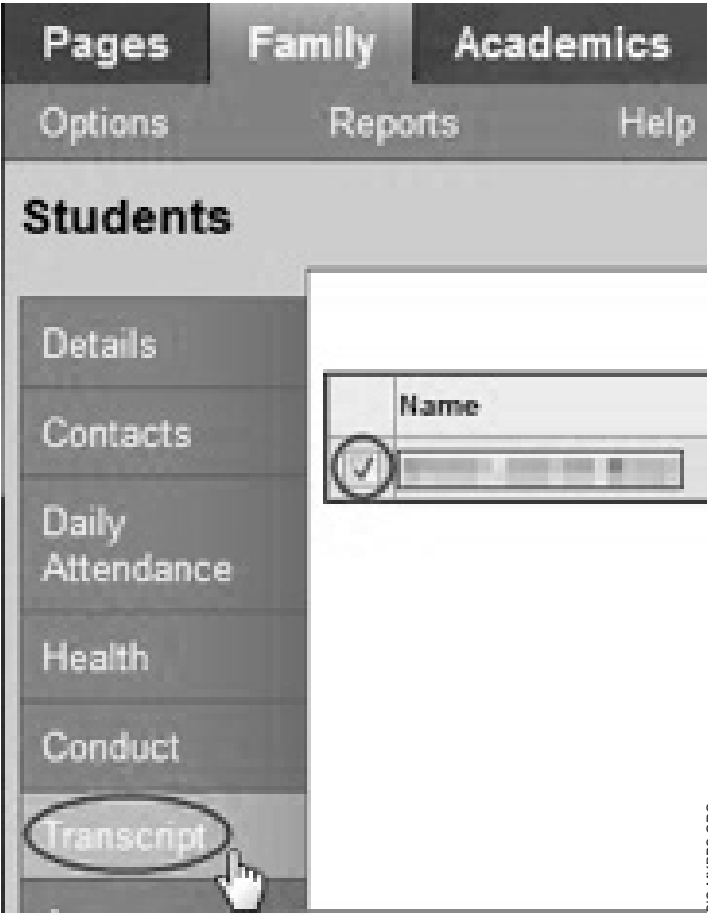
On the other hand, the most negative aspect of knowing one’s grades at any time (again, provided that the teacher reliably updates them) is the big effect some minor grades appear to have on the term average, making them seem lower than they actually could be in the long-term. For instance, if a low grade is earned early in the term on a

less valued assignment, without other grades to buffer it, it can make the average for the term seem much lower, and become a cause for alarm where it is not warranted.

Despite the frustrations that SIS incites in students, most would agree that it does provide one very helpful thing besides access to grades: the ability to double check the grades given to you. Everyone makes mistakes, including teachers and administrators. SIS allows you to confirm your grades, and even attendance records, so you can address an error before it becomes a problem. Instead of hoping that everything has gone well with intermittent updates, you can confirm for yourself long before report cards come out.

In the end, SIS is probably best sampled in small doses every other week or so. No new system is ever perfect the first time around,

and with the sometimes infrequent updates to the grades, it might be best for a student’s mental health to look at it only when needed. If utilized correctly, SIS holds a lot of potential as a tool for students to keep track of assignments and grades. Hopefully, it will become something useful rather than stressful.



A BLESSING OR A CURSE?

Spotlight

Anthony Cheung



By **Raymond Cen, I**
Contributing Writer

“I could have a full conversion just by making noises,” Anthony says as he proceeds to make animal sounds. I wondered to myself, “How does this kid have any friends?” Most recently, he has become the laughingstock of homeroom 102 due to his childish pronunciation of lingerie. “I thought it was pronounced lin-gary,” he says, as Grace Coviello jokingly informs him of the “lin-gary” sale at Victoria’s Secret. Even so, he is one of the most approachable seniors due to his friendliness and charm.

Anthony excels in all aspects. Honestly, one can’t get more well-rounded than this kid. Not only is he an excellent student, he has also almost single-handedly revitalized the Model United Nations club. In the three years that he has been president (Three years! That means he was president as a sophomore!), the club has tripled in size. Its members now compete in large, international conferences.

Outside of the classroom, he challenges himself everyday on the track field. In addition, Anthony has played oboe for the past seven years. I remember small Anthony Cheung playing with the Senior Band way back as an eighth-grader. So dedicated is he that he has even learned how to craft his own reeds. On top of that, he even volunteers at From the Top, a nonprofit organization dedicated to spreading the world of music to young kids who were not as fortunate as Anthony.

Anthony’s intelligence, effort and perseverance have carried him throughout high school, and it seems he is destined to become successful in whatever he tries—well, almost. Anthony has recently taken his talents to the Twitter scene, with zingers such as “Cats sleep 18 hours a day, go to bed fool.” While his insults are almost as bad as his flat jokes, they contribute to his own uniqueness. He is never afraid to venture into unknown territory, shown by his performances in the A.S.I.A. Sing-Off for the past three years (where he sings Britney Spears). Over one of his summers, he worked for The Food Project, farming and harvesting organic produce. It was an opportunity to remove himself from an urban environment and to immerse himself in an activity that would benefit hunger relief organizations, such as Pine Street Inn.

Over the last few years, we have shared some of our best memories together. No matter what the situation is, I know there is one person I can count on—Anthony Cheung.

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

Hey. How’s it going? Haha. Okay enough small talk, I have a pretty serious concern. My dad has been trying to bond with me lately by watching HBO together (Have you ever watched HBO programming on Sunday nights? It’s enthralling.), but it’s starting to get really awkward when we watch one show in particular. There are a lot of really awkward sex scenes that are cringe-worthy in and of themselves, but they are even worse because my dad doesn’t find them awkward at all. He keeps trying to give me “the talk” during them and I really don’t want to have “the talk” with a man who wears a bathrobe 18 hours a day. How do I make this stop?!

Sincerely,

Guy in Real Life Situation,
Suffering

Dear GIRLS,

Listen, boo. I feel you. You can’t stop watching HBO; that’s a no-no. So the only way to really resolve this problem with your papa is to sit him down (preferably during the six hours he isn’t robed) and let him know that you don’t need to have “the talk.” What you really need is to understand where you dad is coming from, honey: he loves you, and only wants to protect you from what you’re seeing on the screen. Just let him know you’re a big man now, and you can handle the graphic content characteristic of Sunday night HBO programming.

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

I’ve been getting a lot of flak lately. I mean, sure, I cheated. Sure, I lied. But do I really have to suffer the consequences of my actions? I mean, come on! Jesus died on the cross, right?! Forgive and forget, man!

Sincerely,

Loser and Narcissistic Cychling Egoist

Dear LANCE,

You must think you’re some really hot stuff for taking the dreams, love and hopes of millions of people across the world and shattering them into billions of pieces. You must think you’re pretty cool. Well, newsflash, bucko: you ain’t! Even though I have absolutely no idea what blood-doping is, the media told me it’s bad, so it must be so. I really looked at you as a wealth of inspiration, and I know a lot of people who felt the same way. You’ve got to realize that celebrity status does not put you above cychling law.

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

Michael Bublé is officially having a child. That’s it. Any hope I had of making him my man has gone down the toilet. My life is ruined. How do I recover from this travesty?

Sincerely,

Girl, Really Unhappy, Miserable, Pejorative, Yelling

Dear GRUMPY,

I know. Life just has no meaning anymore. I...have no advice.

FORUM

Does Free Music Cost Artists?

By **ANDREW ZICK, I**
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

Pirating music is the Bokononism of America. For everyone who has not read Cat’s Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut, there exists a fictional religion called Bokononism, but practicing this religion is punishable by death. As a result, although everyone practices

is stealing, be it bread or megabytes. Apply this to the average student at this school. I think we can assume everyone has at least 500 songs on their iPod. We can also assume that the majority of students in this school don’t have 500 dollars to spend on music, let alone on themselves. The logical solution? Get the songs for free.

Now, one could argue that artists

the artists earn does not cover the costs of promoting their music, equipment, studios, living quarters or even multiple band members.

My point is that this age of digital distribution of music is terrible for all parties involved. People cannot afford to drop hundreds of dollars to support even their favorite artists, so they buy a few songs and “happen upon” the

rest. Streaming is no closer to a resolution because the artists receive next to nothing. Even a few artists, like Magnus Uggle, said he would rather have fans pirate his songs than be misled into believing that Spotify pays artists decently.

Here is my solution: If you are lucky enough to know an artist, throw them a bone (not literally, unless they really are starving), and buy an album or a t-shirt with their band

name. Maybe they will treat you to lunch once they get famous. If you are not that fortunate, then listen to Mr. Uggle. Embrace your inner swashbuckler until fair and reasonable payment is given to your favorite artists to keep doing what they love. Once you graduate from BLS, breeze through your successful college studies and enjoy that rewarding life, think back to the time when you listened to all those artists. Take that spare 10,000 dollars you found in the couch and buy all that old music you snagged for free in high school. Now you are guilt-free.

Bokononism, nobody ever talks about it. Pirating music is the same way. I am not saying everyone does it; there are always the righteous few who resist temptation. I just believe we need to stop demonizing the act, especially when it is the logical decision in today’s music industry.

Stealing being a logical decision, you ask? Yes, indeed it is. One may only look so far as to the movie theater to see Jean Valjean stealing bread for his sister’s children, and according to the anti-piracy “you wouldn’t steal a car” ads, stealing

need your money to make a living. Let us take a look at how they make that money. The vast majority of music sales are now on platforms like iTunes, where artists receive a whopping 70 cents per download. The federal poverty line rests at 11,170 dollars. In order for an artist to meet this meager amount, his or her song would need about 16,000 downloads. What about streaming? Last.fm, an online music catalogue, gives 0.004 dollars per stream, needing 2,792,500 plays to break the line. Spotify is even worse. In most cases, the money that

An Inconvenient Truth on Snow Days

By **GEORGE HUYNH, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It’s winter in New England, and that means snow. Lots of it. As Boston Latin School students, we experience all kinds of emotions when our hopes are either dashed or realized on snowy mornings. Because sometimes there is just too little time in the day to fit in schoolwork, extracurricular activities and sleep, it would seem justifiable for us to hope for a cancellation from school. But contrary to how students across the nation feel about snow days, their effect on students’ willingness to learn is not worth the ephemeral feeling of delight.

Many of my friends spend excessive time checking school closings instead of doing homework, later realizing that they should have done their homework in the first place.

Student procrastination sometimes leads to counterproductive results. Some students even skip school on days that they expected to be cancelled because they procrastinated during that tense period of refreshing the Boston Public Schools website. Instead of wasting valuable time, students should do their work in a timely manner regardless of the weather forecast. It makes sense if you think about it—work now so you can play later. One of my friends

posted on Facebook late Monday night, “I still have so much to do,” clearly disappointed that two inches of snow were not enough to cancel school. Perhaps he wouldn’t be thinking this if he had done his homework instead of waiting for good news that never came.

College students have to approach snow days differently. Once you reach college, you’ll find heavy snow, hail and sleet to be hindrances to your studies. You’ll probably be paying college tuition of some sort—and class cancellation won’t result in a refund. This is just one example of how the vast majority of the popula-

should be empathetic and consider these tragedies before longing for an extra day to sleep in and finish that essay.

Education is a privilege that gives students of all socioeconomic backgrounds the opportunity to lead a rewarding life. Not only that, but we receive a particularly privileged education here at BLS. At the end of the day, we sometimes foolishly hope that storms grow stronger and deadlier just to free us from one extra day of school. Our weekends, holidays and vacations ought to be enough to suffice our rest and sanity. Heck, we all will have to make up these

unplanned cancelled school days anyway and will be forced to cover the same material in a shorter timespan to prepare for previously scheduled finals and AP exams. So what exactly

are we doing when we continuously root for days off from school? We are supporting the evils of global warming by advocating for extreme weather patterns, as Al Gore might respond. We are depriving ourselves of our education. We are exposing ourselves to negligence and lethargy. So, the next time you tweet @CarolJohnsonBPS begging the superintendent for a snow day, remember that you may get more than you bargain for.



 BostonPublicSchools retweeted

City of Boston @NotifyBoston

3d

At this time, Boston Public Schools will be open on normal schedule Tuesday, 1/22/13. #BoSnow

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU SHOULD START YOUR HOMEWORK.

FORUM

Should Armed Guards Be In School?



Con

By Ming Ying, IV
Staff Writer

Recently, the debate over the presence of “armed volunteers” in schools has been the talk of the nation. Although few schools are likely to adopt the unpopular measure, anti-gun control conservatives persist that more guns will lead to less violence. Conservative organizations, however, like the National Rifle Association (NRA), which has promoted the preposterous idea of armed guards in schools, are actually moving our country in the wrong direction. To fulfill their vision would mean infiltrating school hallways with volunteers carrying pistols. Frankly, it’s not difficult to imagine what effects these gun-toting guards will have on schools across the country. Rather than prevent tragedies like the Sandy Hook massacre, the presence of armed volunteers would result in pervasive fear among parents, teachers and young kids.

If professional police forces weren’t able to stop the shooter at Sandy Hook before he killed 26 people, how will a bunch of volunteers wielding weapons stop similar incidents in the future? Simply put, having more guns in school is not a practical solution. A small militia in each school is not guaranteed—or even likely—to work. Take the Columbine High School shooting, for example. The presence of an armed guard on the school’s premises couldn’t prevent the shooter from claiming 13 lives. What makes the NRA and other conservative organizations think that this tactic, which has proven ineffective in the past, will work in future situations?

How will students be affected by the assumption that omnipresent weaponry is a legitimate response to violence, even in school? Police stations may be an imperfect solution to combating violence, but at least they keep deadly weapons away from the eyes of students. After all, schools are supposed to be places of learning and harmony, not workplaces for armed guards. Are we trying to teach the younger generation that an over-policed society is a safer one?

There is no evidence that such a plan wouldn’t be putting students in even more danger. How can we ensure that these volunteers are good and honest people? School shooters are invariably disturbed, but equally unexpected; at some point, while arming larger and larger segments of society, some who we arm for protective enforcement will confront the same mental illness that leads school shooters down that deadly path. If a guard ever snapped, we would have ourselves to blame for the guard’s easy access to defenseless students and teachers.

Men and women in school carrying deadly weapons would not improve students’ educational experience. Most proponents of ludicrous plans like this quote the Second Amendment when supporting their right to bear arms. Their logic boils down to this: the Second Amendment allows people to carry any kind of gun, from pistols to semi-automatic assault rifles. If a mentally disturbed person poses a threat to society, it is the responsibility of others to shoot that person before he or she shoots an innocent victim. Everyone should have a chance to shoot. Hopefully, the final victim is the bad guy, just like in those Hollywood movies about the Wild West of the 1800s. But this is not the nineteenth century. We need a more modern, civilized solution that will address a 21st century problem. We already have an idea of what an over-protective, over-policed society looks like. We saw it with the Soviet Union, before it collapsed in a cloud of poverty and infamy. Our society is geared towards the benefit of future generations, and growing up in schools turned into military zones would only contradict that notion. While looking for an easy answer to prevent school gun violence is a noble cause, the proposal of armed volunteers is as primitive as it is bound to fail.

Pro

By Mike Murray, I
Contributing Writer

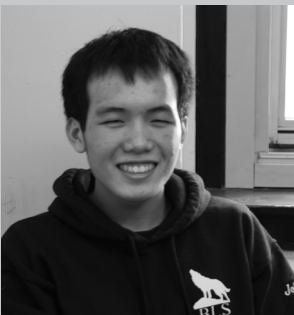
There are numerous examples of active shooter situations mitigated by armed resistance, whether by police or legally carrying citizens. According to the FBI, the greatest number of casualties occurs in the first ten minutes after a shooter attacks. The average response time of a SWAT team is less than thirty minutes. Therefore the shooter has ample time to seek targets prior to a coordinated response. In most cases, the attacker commits suicide when met by armed resistance, as seen recently in the Newtown shooting. Unfortunately this response came from outside the school, after Adam Lanza began killing. In the case of the Aurora, Colorado shooting, the shooter laid down his weapons when met with armed response by police. If the armed resistance came immediately from within the school, mall or theater, would the casualty count be lower? Statistics support the notion that earlier armed resistance will lead to less casualties. Many tactical professionals agree that these “soft targets,” where firearms are banned, are purposefully targeted by criminals and active shooters. Following the September 11 attacks on the United States, the Federal Air Marshals Service (FAMS) expanded its numbers to thousands. The job of the FAMS is to “detect, deter and defeat hostile acts targeting the United States.” Yet what is the need for an armed agent on an airplane if guns, knives, explosives and interference with an aircrew are all illegal, just as it is in a school or mall? The reason was shown to us on

September 11 2001, December 22, 2001 (Shoe Bomber), and December 25, 2009 (Underwear Bomber). Unfortunately, there are people in the world willing to break laws to achieve death and destruction. If we are willing to put trained agents on a plane, which we all agree is a target of violence, then why do we not do the same for our schools, which are becoming all too common sites of mass violence? There is a Boston Police officer in our school; this individual is not currently armed. While security at school is a priority to school and city officials, why not further enhance school security by giving the school an active defense against dangerous armed individuals? In the event that an armed individual, student or outsider, enters the school, they would have free reign in a target rich environment. According to the lockdown policy at BPS, students are to be locked in rooms and hidden in corners. The doors and glass that are supposed to protect students, however, are in no way bulletproof. After a shooter is able to make an initial attack, he would be able to continually break into rooms and murder students. Our school currently has only a passive defense to an active shooter situation, giving the criminal the upper hand. But if the school police officer, or some other individual was trained to use a firearm in a high stress situation with the primary objective of confronting and neutralizing an armed threat, the likelihood of student survival would increase dramatically. In fact, schools across the country have begun to adopt the idea of trained armed guards and police officers at school. This has been most recently utilized at an elementary school in Florida, where a concerned mother has agreed to pay the bill for a sheriff’s deputy to serve in a post at the school. The town pays for sheriff’s deputies to serve a detail at the town middle and high schools. Police officers serve to protect and aid those in need, and would function in the same facet in a school. In the same way we employ armed troopers to patrol the airport, armed guards to defend bank patrons and armed Federal Air Marshals to protect flyers, an armed official in school would serve to benefit the student and faculty population.

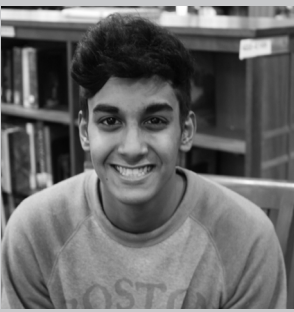
Forum Question
Should Armed
Guards Be In School?



“Yes because it won’t hurt us to have extra protection.”
-Jennifer He, I



“No because even if there were armed guards, it is not like they can prevent anything. The school should focus more on preventing things from happening.”
-John Wong II



“No it’d be weird to have armed people in the school. There should be a certain level of trust in this school. It’d be an unnecessary use of money.”
-Nafeez Talukder III



“No we should not because nothing happened here before except for that one time a kid burned stuff.”
-Mark Pierre IV



“Yes because if there were to be a shooter in the school then they could use it to protect us.”
-Katie Draisen V



“Yes because the police officers in the school do not do enough without weapons.”
-Sofia Meddows VI

A&E

Talents at Senior District Festival

By **GERALDINE VITTINI, I**
A&E Editor

In the sterile grand halls of BLS’s music wing comes together a veritable tapestry of voices and instruments from all over the state, to participate in the end product of month’s worth of auditioning -- the Senior District Festival. As an outsider looking in, the process seems exciting and amiable, like a friendly competition among young musicians. Haha... not.

Senior Districts are a process where young musicians audition in a highly competitive setting, performing and sight reading short parts from difficult music pieces, some of which are pre-rehearsed, some of which are totally new to the auditionee. District vocal participant Isabella Rosales says of the process: “They grade

you based on musicality, tone, pitch, and style... [and] in the short 8 measure song in which you sightread, you’re graded on pitch and rhythm...it’s crazy.” The point system on which the auditionees are graded is detailed and unforgiving -- and the percentage of students who pass indicates just how unforgiving: only 44% of nearly 970 participants were accepted. Once a participant passes District auditions, he or she then has the opportunity to audition for All-States -- “... and that’s a whole other story,” says Rosales.

The sense of rivalry between BLS and other participating schools, like Milton High and Boston Arts Academy, becomes even more pronounced when the leaders of the festival itself are considered. Professional conductors with PhDs in music come to BLS to direct the voices and the

instruments, so the pressure to meet or exceed expectations becomes even greater.

Even with the remarkable tension in the room, the real spirit of the festival remains: the desire to come together and make marvelous music. With so much talent in such cramped spaces, the sounds of voices, jazz instruments, strings, and woodwinds ring without error throughout the wing. “The end result is crazy beautiful,” affirms Rosales.

In addition to vocal competitors, there were also competitors from the Jazz Band, Big Band, Concert Orchestra and others. The festival is also offered to auditionees of grades 7-9 (Junior Districts) and grades 9-12 (Senior). For more information on the senior festival, visit the Eastern MMEA website at <http://www.mmeaeasterndistrict.org/>.

Spotlight

Patrick Sossou



By **JORDAN TOLBERT, I**
& **GERALDINE VITTINI, I**
& **STEPHEN ZOULALIAN, I**
Contributing Writer & A&E Editors

Everyone knows Patrick “Ricky” Sossou. He’s that guy in the hall who awkwardly waved at you even though you didn’t know him. He’s that guy who winks at his teachers and calls them by their first names. He’s that guy who can make you feel both incredibly at ease, and incredibly uncomfortable. Patrick Sossou is the luscious-lipped Ghanan Prince presiding over homeroom 201.

His personable attributes are evident, but his athletic prowess often goes unnoticed. Patrick is the epitome of the phrase “Student-Athlete,” diligently working alone every night to master the technique for his powerful, awe-inspiring and efficient strokes. After he finishes his intense full body workouts, Sossou unwinds by creating his signature homemade sounds. Ask him to sample some; he’d be more than willing.

Patrick spent the past summer chiseling his calves while working at the Swan Boats. There he learned to polish brass, catch boats and pass time on the docks playing the animal rhyming game. If Sossou continues to work at the Swan Boats, which starts up again during April break, make sure to get a ride on his boat and tip that man well. He is underpaid and overworked.

Although Patrick’s rough, sinewy body looks like it was hand-carved by a furiously aroused Zeus, he, amazingly, has never lifted weights. His physique is the result of the energy that he puts into every task that he takes on -- and this is true in every aspect of his life, from scholarly to professional to personal (ladies). Special mention must be made to Sossou’s outstanding League of Legends career. One wonders how he manages to attract his mates. Even though he is inundated with school work, Patrick’s athletic ability is well above par, and his stress level suspiciously nonexistent. One must keep a special eye on this soon to be Olympic champion -- the chocolate Michael Phelps if you will.

Improv Review

By **ALLIE KENNELLY, II**
Contributing Writer

On January 18, the Boston Latin School Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe hosted their second show of the year, Improv and Prejudice, to raise money for Facing History and Ourselves. Over a hundred students, parents and faculty members, including Dr. Mooney-Teta, crammed into the Black Box theatre to enjoy 90 minutes of eccentricities, awkward silences, the occasional sexual innuendo and even a Dr. Who reference. Friday’s show raised around \$400 for the Facing History classes, and all proceeds will be used to help fund this year’s trips to Washington D.C. and Eastern Europe later this spring. Improv and Prejudice started like all Yellow Sub improv shows do: Co-Captains Ayo Edebiri (I), Alec MacNeil (I), Hannah Givertz (II) and Mike Skerrett (II), welcomed the audience to the show with a quick, comical skit, which would undoubtedly set the precedent for the games to follow.

Audience participation is key, as this is where the improvisers will be drawing their inspiration from. Locations, themes, relationships—anything is up for grabs. Any improviser on the Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe would tell you that a good show is dependent upon a good audience, and this show’s audience both developed and killed games during the show.

This show also marked the second time that the Yellow Subs hosted the Brookline High School Improv troop, Needs Improvment, who opened for their spring show last year. Brookline opened for the Yellow Subs as well as joined them later in the show for “Things You Don’t Hear in a Place Like This,” and “Chat Roulette.” Unfortunately, Needs Improvment was not used to performing in the Black Box, and was unable to put aside their initial missteps long enough to have a successful opening act. From the get go, it was clear that they were overwhelmed by the audience shouting

out suggestions and were also unprepared to organize those suggestions without the help of faculty advisor, Mark VanderZee, who usually hosts and directs the Needs Improvment shows. Independence is never an issue for the student-led Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe, and dur-



KNOCK BEFORE ENTERING A BATHROOM

ing Friday’s show, put side by side with Brookline High, it was their greatest asset. Although good audience suggestions at last week’s show were few and far between, the BLS improvisers were, for the most part, able to turn bland audience suggestions into humorous skits and took scenes in a direction that they knew the audience would enjoy.

The Yellow Subs started with a game called “Four Ways to Die,” in which the audience recommends four ways that each of the improvisers in the scene are going to die. Though communism, indigestion, anthrax and interpretive dancing seem like they would lend themselves to a successfully funny first game, it was really a

selected audience member, whose job it was to cross out each cause of death on a white board as they happened, who received most of the laughs. Unfortunately, as the improvisers “died,” any jokes made during this first game were overshadowed by the audience laughing at the volunteer, who kept crossing out the wrong thing. Luckily, the Yellow Subs were able to quickly recover in their next game “The Octopus,” which is an extended scene in which the audience tells the improvisers what they want to see happen. Despite taking place in a submarine, the improvisers explored many relationships that were not submarine limited. From unknown aquatic animals to Santa Claus, anything was fair game in this octopus, despite a lack of enthusiasm when it came to audience participation. The show continued with “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” a game entirely reliant on good audience suggestions, which in this case came up short, and “Aftershock,” during which the Yellow Subs were once again left to guess what the audience wanted to see as suggestions fell short. Despite a lack of fervent audience members, Improv and Prejudice ended on a high note when the Yellow Subs collaborated with Needs Improvment for a final game of “Chat Roulette.” Whenever I see Brookline play this game, it is always a success as there are countless peculiar characters to be found on the internet. During this rendition, however, it was the relationship between Yellow Sub Co-Captain, Alec MacNeil, and Needs Improvment Co-Captain, Danielle Balanov that put this game over the top.

In 90 minutes the Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe managed to joke about death, relationships, family, government and social networking. Despite the occasional slip-up, the erratic laughter which plagued the audience from the beginning of the show to the end validates that this was yet another successful show for the Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe. Now all we can do is wait for the next one.

Horoscopes

Aquarius, Jan 20 - Feb 18: “You decided to watch Les Misérables...then you die” -Alec
Pisces, Feb 19 - Mar 20: You will fall in love with a man who recently got into Harvard. He has Bio R3 on Day 1.
Aries, Mar 21 - Apr 19: The sexiest of all signs, you will find yourself choosing between two very hard things. Very hard.
Taurus, Apr 20 - May 20: Don’t be complacent –It’s your time to pursue whatever you always wanted to.

Gemini, May 21 - Jun 20: Let your inner beauty shine, but I swear, if you wear UGGs and sweat pants at the same time I will smite you.
Cancer, Jun 21 - Jul 22: The song bird may hum sweet melodies of your name, but alas A\$AP no Rocky.
Leo, Jul 23 - Aug 22: I see the Oval Office in your future.
Virgo, Aug 23 - Sep 22: I have with my great eye your good news. Keep that up sport and remember—15 minutes.

Libra, Sep 23 - Oct 22: Today your teacher will begin to call you George for some unknown reason.
Scorpio, Oct 23 - Nov 21: If you build it they will come, so be prepared when they bring their friends.
Sagittarius, Nov 22 - Dec 21: Remember that for \$3.20 you can get two pieces of chicken, a drink and biscuit from Popeye’s.
Capricorn, Dec 22 - Jan 19: Look in the mirror and think about where you want to go.

A&E Burger Wanted: Big, Juicy, and Meaty

By **STEPHEN ZOULALIAN, I**
A&E Editor

Think of quintessential American cuisine: crisp bacon, juicy beef, grilled buns. All too often, I find myself wishing these images would jump out of my mind and onto a grill. We Bostonians are lucky enough to be graced with the presence of a myriad of gourmet burger-joints, but how is the average citizen supposed to make smart dining decisions on an empty stomach? Like Scooby-Doo and his gang, I revealed the best burger spot in Boston with my ragtag group of burger connoisseurs. My order of a bacon cheeseburger, fries and a glass of water remained constant throughout my quest.

We left Boston Latin with a hankering for good meat and made our way over to Tasty Burger on Boylston Street. In less than 10 minutes we found ourselves seated, surrounded by typical burger joint décor—jukebox and all. Our waitress, a BLS alum, took our order and, without much delay brought out our food. I began by taking a big ol’ bite of the centerpiece of the meal, the gorgeous-looking bacon cheeseburger. As I sunk my incisors into the burger I immediately tasted the seasoned char on both the patty and bun. It seemed that after processing every bite, the deliciously sinful salty flavors of my cheeseburger lingered in my mouth. The tomato and lettuce did not take away from the experience as out-of-season vegetables often do. The bacon was on the crispy side, of which I am not a fan of on burg-

ers, but it did not detract from the total package. The piping hot shoestring fries were a little too salty, but I am able to forgive Tasty Burger for this travesty for equipping every table with the ultimate french fry condiment: malt vinegar. For about \$9 I got a much better burger combo meal than those offered at any fast food restaurant.

Next on our list was Boston Burger Company, located further down on Boylston Street. We were greeted by a lively playlist of Vampire Weekend and other similar bands. The restaurant was

but my burger was cooked way past my requested medium into the dreaded well-done zone. My next bite was ruined by the bland tomato, but the chewy bacon provided a bit of a silver lining for me. I moved on to my side of classic fries, which actually happened to be huge wedge fries. I forced myself to eat some to justify my purchase, but they were way too starchy, with an undercooked center. Stay as far away from these “classic” fries as possible. The meal cost more than Tasty Burger, coming in at about \$14, and it was not nearly as good. Boston Burger Company will try to entice you with its not-so-mouth-watering menu, but remember: a burger is only as good as what’s between the buns.

Finally we made our way to Five Napkin, located on Huntington Avenue. Even though we were filled to bursting, after our exotic waitress Roberta took our orders, I dug into my meal like a starved man. Unlike BBC, the meat was cooked perfectly and the bacon was by far the best, but the burger faced one fatal flaw. It was too loose and juicy. The burger just fell apart in my hands. Feeling dejected I turned to my dish of fries.

They were shoestring fries, like Tasty Burger’s, but they were not as salty. If only the burger had been as good as the fries, I could have justified the \$15 price tag.

My wallet feels strained and my stomach even more so, but the prize was well worth the journey. The quickie summary: Don’t waste your time going to Boston Burger Company, Five Napkin is good, but pricey for its quality and Tasty Burger is the reigning champ. Give them your money and they will give you happiness.



THE AMERICAN DREAM

furnished with intricate light fixtures which was accented perfect by the metal tiled ceiling. After taking my seat and scanning BBC’s extensive burger menu I realized it was lacking the staple bacon cheeseburger. This is an immediate strike against the restaurant. I was forced to order the All American burger with a side of classic fries. I was only able to bite off a small piece of the patty and bun due to the fact that the thick pub style burger was too enormous to fit inside my mouth—quite a feat for a burger pro like me. The meat itself was well seasoned,

Cupcakes

on the website. Instead, each cupcake was set at the marginally lower price of \$3.95. This is a lot for a single cupcake but the size and quality of the goods make up for it. I gladly coughed up the money.

The cake in the food itself is not extraordinary—it’s well made, but nothing over the top. The real stars at Crumbs are the frosting and the toppings. The cream cheese or buttercream frosting (depending on which cupcake you choose) is evenly distributed—they don’t give too much, but they don’t exactly skimp either. Depending on how adventurous you feel,

the toppings can range from sprinkles and sugar to crushed potato chips. What goes on the cake is more important than the cake batter itself.

If you’re feeling nostalgic for some Hostess goods, they have the “Squiggle” (which closely resembles Hostess’ Cup-Cake). If you’re looking to reward yourself for a job well-done and don’t want to go far, you’ve found the right place. Crumbs Bake Shop is close by. It is easily accessible, and satisfying in every way it should be. Go there. It will be worth your money and time.



IT’S A CAKE, BUT IN A CUP!

Spotlight

Brianna Nobles



By **MARK FAVORITO, I**
Contributing Writer

I had the pleasure of meeting Brianna Nobles for the first time in Ms. Miller’s brutal 9th grade Latin class, as we both struggled through our translations. I already knew her as “That-Girl-Who-Can-Sing-Wicked-Good-and-Has-a-Nice-Butt” but after talking to her for the first time when I asked her for the homework, we began to get to know one another. By the end of the year we had become great friends and I realized she was much more than vocal chords and buns. Passing her in the hallways one will notice that she has style for days. Her look is marked by her sweet little ‘fro and impressive collection of scarves which she matches with whatever she’s wearing. No one knows exactly how many scarves she has but, her neckwear is so numerous that even Mr. Keitt would be impressed.

Along with being a fine piece of eye candy Brianna has contributed to BLS as both an athlete and a musician. She has been a member of the Wolfettes for 3 years and has been belting it out since she started. The girl loves to sing, and thankfully she is really good at it. So good in fact that her solo on the Wolfettes’ recent rendition of “Fallin’” could send shivers down Alicia Keys’s spine. She has also been a member of the girls’ soccer team since 8th grade and her aggressive exploits on the field have made her a force to be reckoned with in the DCL.

Outside of school, Brianna works at Racial Healing and Reconciliation, a program working to address racially based social issues and inequities. Thanks to this and her genuine passion she is extremely knowledgeable about social justice issues and is so impassioned by her work there that she’d like to pursue a career in this field. With her amazing dedication and enthusiasm it’s fair to say that she will make an impact in whatever she decides to do.

But aside from these things that appear on a resume, Brianna is a great friend. Ariana Ule (1) a close friend of Brianna says, “Whether she knows it or not, Bri constantly makes me a better person. She tells it like it is, stands her ground and above all cares,” and Anna McColgan (1), another great friend of Bri’s says, “I wanna be Brianna Nobles when I grow up.” As you can hopefully see by the mass of text above, Brianna is a damn good person with many skills and achievements. So basically if you don’t already know her you should probably get on that. But boys don’t get any ideas; she’s taken.

A & E

FX Enters the “Danger Zone”

By Ehis Osifo, I
Staff Writer

After almost an entire year, the wait has finally come to an end: FX has graced us with Season Four of its hit animated series, Archer.

The series follows secret agent, Sterling Archer, the resident megalomaniac, who is obsessed with Burt Reynolds and black turtlenecks. He is accompanied on ever more outlandish shenanigans by his coworkers: the dusky Lana Kane, with expert skill in hand-to-hand combat and a hilarious love-hate relationship with Archer; Cyril Figgis, comptroller with a supposed sex addiction; the bear-claw-munching, Fight-Club-leading Pam Poovey, Hu-



man Resources (let’s just say Pam has some hobbies that makes us wonder how she ever got her job); Cheryl/Carol, the billionaire heiress secretary with

a penchant for rubber glue and erotic asphyxiation; and Doctor Krieger who is the head of the “applied research” department and possibly a direct descendent of Adolf Hitler.

They are all employed at the International Secret Intelligence Service (ISIS) of which Archer’s alcoholic, sex-crazed and just as megalomaniacal mother, Mallory, is the boss.

Season Four begins with an amnesiac, Archer. Due to the trauma he faced after his mother’s latest marriage to the Cadillac King of Upstate New York, he is under the impression that his name is Bob and that he is married to a woman named Linda, who has three kids (see Bob’s Burgers). He is forced to leave his new home due to the invasion of

remember who he is—before the KGB or cyborg Barry (long story, involves Russian spies and silk-lined socks) try to annihilate him.

Included in the Season 4 premiere: spy-craft and espionage, relentless mockery of the hit show Bob’s Burgers and the Bourne film series, Nazi jokes, terrible Russian accents, talking ostriches, LSD gummy bears, hamble-durgers, phrasing and pool boys named Juan. It is definitely worth waiting up until 10:30 to watch.

Even though it is rated TV-MA for suggestive dialogue (Pam), excessive violence (Archer), coarse language (Lana), sexual situations (Mallory) and nudity (Cheryl. Or is Carol?), Archer is very much worth those attempts at trying to crack the parental control lock. There is no other show that is so hilariously vulgar, yet incredibly irreverent, with a quotable factor so high that it rivals Mean Girls. This very article is riddled with Archer references. It is so funny you could drown a toddler in your tears of laughter.

If you are looking for a show about spies who go undercover and catch the bad guys, then this is not the show for you. But if you want a show about barely capable adults who only think about illicit activities and are trusted with the most top secret intelligence against the better judgment of, well, everyone, then clearly Archer is the show for you. Tune in to FX on Thursday nights at 10:00 and 11:30 to catch up with the series on Netflix if you want to know what the entire buzz is about. James Bond, codename: 007? No. More like Sterling Archer, codename: Duchess.

Muschietti’s Mama More of the Same

By Andrew Quinn, I
Staff Writer

It takes many hands to make a feature length movie, and having Guillermo del Toro (of Pan’s Labyrinth) as executive producer ensured that up-and-coming director Andy Muschietti had them available. Unfortunately, Muschietti’s break into the world of feature-length film leaves one with mixed feelings. He is a capable director, but falls flat as an intriguing writer. Note: Mama is an adaptation of a three minute YouTube short that really does show Muschietti at his cinematographic best, which becomes clear later in the film.

The opening is gripping enough: a desperate father murders his estranged wife during a snowfall and attempts to escape with his two daughters Victoria and Lily. Unfortunately, he skids and crashes the car due to snowfall and despair, and comes upon a very mysterious cabin in the woods (cliche’ one). Cue audience sigh.

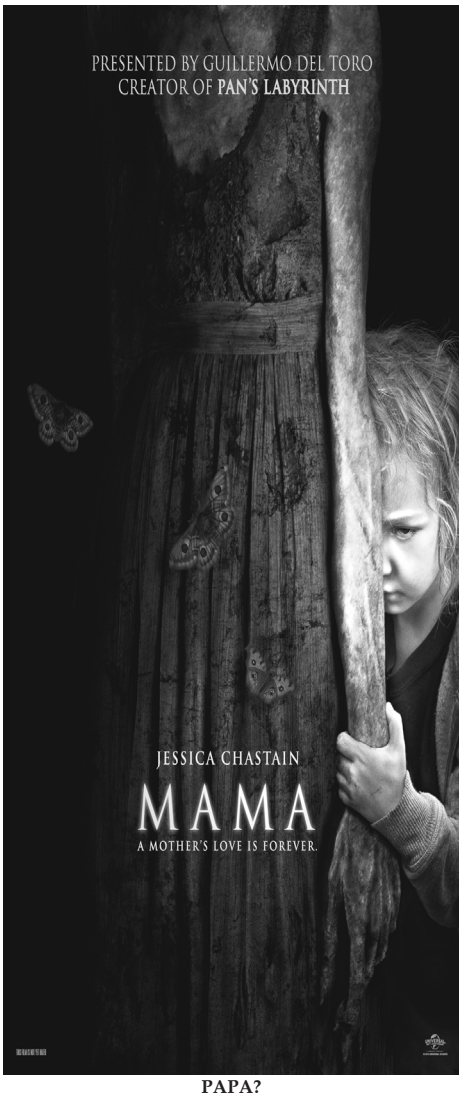
a magnificent Annabel, the punk rock girlfriend of Nikolaj Coster-Waldau’s Lucas, the uncle of the two girls. After obsessive searching since the incident, he finally finds the girls (now feral) and adopts them with Annabel into a large suburban home, inviting the eponymous maternal spirit along to watch over the girls (cliche’ two). This is where Muschietti’s writing begins to creak and groan, straining under the need to sustain this plot for longer than its three minute origin.

The film ends up regurgitating various elements we have all seen before in horror, although the choice to focus on suspense rather than gore is an apt one. There are a few genuine thrills in the first hour; by the second, they are all played out, leaving Chastain’s fun and well-executed performance to carry the rest of the sadly flat characterization. Lucas practically disappears from existence about thirty minutes in, and Victoria and Lily never really get beyond the one-dimensionalism of the “creepy kids,” all the more disheartening as the attempt is so clearly apparent.

The screenplay may not be novel, but the visuals are engaging and occasionally breathtaking. Muschietti shows a peculiar sensitivity to shifts in scenic color to reveal the tone, and his camera angles are varied and well thought-out: here a quick succession of still shots, there a trippy rotation to emphasize the surreal atmosphere. The vibrant expressionism in the dream sequences is my personal highlight of the cinematography (I am a sucker for stylized surrealism). In the final wash, Muschietti’s writing is second rate, and he relies too

much on expositional gimmicks like slowly reaching to open the closet after explicitly being told not to look in the closet (cliche’ three).

It is his first feature film, however, and it certainly showcases both Chastain’s diverse acting skills and his own highly stylized understanding of the film as a visual creation.



Spotlight

Anna Baronas



By Sadia Bies, I
Contributing Writer

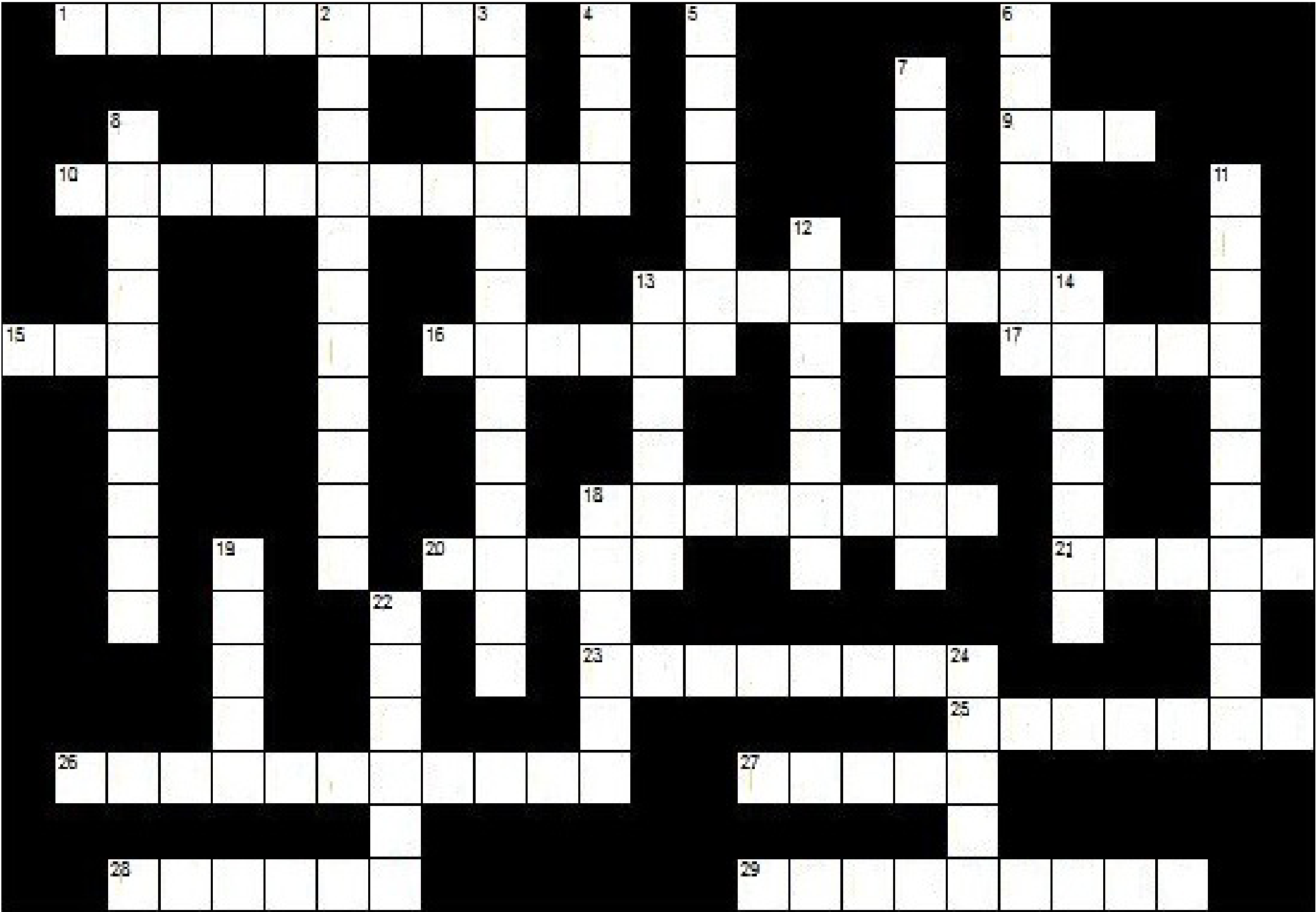
Anna Baronas is a ninja keystone of the Boston Latin community. Not sure how this lovely lady has impacted your stay at BLS? Well I promise you, she has. She’s a member of the BLS Concert Band, where she has been faithfully playing the flute since she was a Sixie. What she is really devoted to though, is Theatre at BLS. What? You’ve never seen her in one? Well, that is because she is one of those ninjas who work offstage as the Black box’s stage manager. While she won’t go up on stage to receive her applause, she is just as worthy as any one of the actors, as she oversees all of the play.

Her responsibility is to make sure every single play runs smoothly. She has to know the script better than the actors and directors, coordinating the performance with the sound and light cues. The fact that Theatre has been able to produce the amazing plays that it has in the past two years is due in large part to Anna’s dedication and amazing organization skills. By timing correctly all the technical aspects of the play, she allows the music, acting, and script to come together to heighten the goer’s experience and the play’s impact.

This year she has tried her hand at another facet of theatre. Anna directed the fall production of “Unnecessary Farce”, a comedic fast-paced production that required an enormous amount of time and coordinating. She fulfilled this duty unbelievably well, staying late with her actors to create the final show which was an unmitigated success. Anna was able to connect with all the actors that she was working with on a personal level to help them reach their full potential.

She is an incredible networker and gets along well with all types of people. To her various talents, she adds a quirky humor, compassion and kindness, a bold fashion sense, intelligence, and a gorgeous smile (see above!) that makes her one of the best people at BLS to be friends with.

She is a pillar of BLS theatre and one of the closest friends I have. While she might not always be in the spotlight, she certainly deserves to be. This girl shines all on her own.



Across

Down

1. Source of Bruce Banner’s powers

9. Sex, Drugs and Rock & Roll

10. “Did the news get around about a guy named _____”

13. Rapeseed oil is also known as

15. “Gonna lick a _____”

16. The name of Alec MacNeil’s new alter ego

17. Napoleon Dynamite’s favorite animal answer

18. The next big fad supported by Japanese investors

20. Fashion capital of the world
21. This country does not have a rectangular flag

23. The oldest major soft drink in the US

25. Summer school class for Zetian

26. Let’s get weird

27. What do you call a physics related joke?

28. This man resembles the male EiC of the Argo

29. Britney Spears album “Oops!” original title
2. First public beach in America

3. “We start the day up on the roof”

4. “We are going Mobile”

5. Athea _____ Berg answer

6. Argorn’s swrod

7. Yakko, Dot and Wakko Warner

8. This river crosses Commonwealth Ave

11. Youngest NBA player to reach 20,000 points

12. This NBA team lost their sting

13. This female calculus teacher enjoys pub trivia on the weekend

14. What did Beyonce´ do at the inauguration
18. The best pub in Philly

19. Ms. Freeman’s favorite color

22. Crippler Cross-Face

24. The second R in J. R. R. Tolkien stands for?

Sudokus

Easy

5	2			3		7		
7				2		9		
								3
		5	1	9				
4						3	8	9
							6	
9						2		
	8	7	6			5		1
	6		3					

Diabolical

7					4	9		6
2	9	3		8	5			
		6	3				5	
8	2	1			6			
9	5							
3				9		2		4
	3	8				1		
	1		7	4		3	6	
			1	5		4		

SPORTS

The Dangle Squad

By **BRIAN FORGIONE, I**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Lettuce. Sauce. Fettuccini Alfredo. To the naked ear, the average person would assume these three words are being used to describe Joe Petruzzello's (I) Sunday dinner. While that is partially true, they are more specifically describing Joe's second family—the Boys' Varsity Hockey Team.

Whether it is the hockey bags stacked up on game day, Sean Burke's (IV) spiked hair or one of Captain Ryan Dougherty's (I) post-game tweets, if you go to BLS, there is a strong chance you have seen, smelled or even re-tweeted a hockey player.

The hockey team prides itself on being a historically victorious hockey program, and this year is no different. As returning Dual County League Champions, the hockey team is contending for its second straight banner. With the offense primarily produced by Dorchester's Greg Penella (I) and the Ninth Grader "Pretty Boy" Jimmy O'Leary (IV), the Wolfpack seeks to combine youth and experience to formulate the ever-so-elusive recipe for success. On the other end of the ice, we have a vivacious crew of blue-liners, such as CJ "The Sherriff" Dullea (I) and his lifelong partner in crime, Conor Moccia (II). Whether they are cruising down the Jamaica Way in CJ's antiquated yet chic 1996 Oldsmobile, or tickling twine late in a close game, these two Hyde Park natives know how to seal the deal in style.

When interviewed about his team's

recent success, Captain "Netminder" Michael Murray (I) stated "Yeah ya' know ahhh, our main focus out there is to just play hard and chirp harder, that's all. If we do that, then I like our chances at the end of the game." While this Dorchester native's Canadian accent may be sub-par, his performance on the ice has proven to be quite the opposite. Under the tutelage of the late-great Gabe Diop, who graduated in 2011, Michael sat on the bench for two years, like a Saharan lion stalking a wounded wildebeest, waiting for his time to shine. When Michael's time came at the start of the 2011-2012 season, he did not disappoint. After consistently maintaining a Goals Against Average (GAA) under two over the past two seasons, Michael has caused his opponents to squander in fear at the very thought of coming down on a goaltender whose length and durability resembles that of the Great Wall of China. Off the ice, Michael has a striking resemblance to Millard Fillmore,

Next up is Captain Ryan Dougherty (I), better known as "The Plum." This gentle giant is currently enjoying his fourth year on the Varsity Hockey Team, an achievement he wears proudly on all articles of clothing ranging from his famous Letterman jacket, all the way down to his form-fitting Boston Latin School briefs. As the son of local legend Tom "TD" Dougherty and his better half, Doreen Dougherty, Ryan was destined for greatness from day one. Needless to say, he hasn't disappointed. Those who have seen him on the ice know that "The Plum" is silky smooth. Whether he is coming out of the corner on the power-play, beating opposing goaltenders with his lightning-fast clapper or scooping ice in celebration of one of his many goals, Ryan always resembles an eighteenth-century ballerina with his uncanny agility and finesse. Off the ice, Ryan is a political dynamo cocooned in West Roxbury who flaps his wings all over this beautiful city. He may not know



THE ROUGH AND TUMBLE HOCKEY TEAM

not only because both men are dashingly handsome, but more so because of their ability to serve as a leader to their respective nation or high school hockey team. Michael embodies what it means to be a student at Boston Latin School, which makes him the ideal captain for any team.

you, but you can bet your bottom dollar that he is on a first-name basis with your father.

Collectively, the members of the Boys Varsity Hockey Team serve as one of the most tightly-knit brotherhoods in the school. As a team that relies on all 22 players to achieve success, there is no limit on how far they can go. If you are a person that is interested in watching highly competitive, combative and courageous sporting events, come support your school's Varsity Hockey team. Rollpack.

Spotlight

Brian Forgione



By **RYAN DOUGHERTY, I**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On May 23, 1995, a legend was born. Brian Forgione grew up on the quiet, peaceful and suburban streets of West Roxbury. He attended St. Theresa's Parish School where he was an avid member of the church choir. After he gave up on singing, he decided to go into the skateboarding industry. He would be seen rocking Vans, Element, DC and other skateboarding apparel. Brian could even pull off the Double McTwist, which was deemed to be impossible by Squid from Rocket Power. He could be seen at the Joyce Kilmer School showing off his kickflips and ollies to his friends, Bcolls and Freakshow. Brian hit his real claim to fame when he was known as Hercules throughout Parkway Little League Baseball. He was the 12-year-old man-child that threw 70 miles per hour and stood 6'2". In his last year, his team won the state championship and advanced to the Regionals of the Little League World Series. During this game, his TV career started... and ended. ESPN covered his game and he hit the first four batters he faced and was taken out and the team suffered a devastating loss. Then things came back around for him when he got tied down in a Ronnie and Sammi type relationship where he finally started to grow up.

Modern day Brian is way past those days. I think this may be the only time I have ever called him Brian, because everyone knows him as Forgie and Forge. Forgie is the captain of the Varsity Hockey Team and played Varsity Baseball his freshman year. He is also a member of another Varsity Team which we will keep concealed for good measure. You can see Brian roaming the halls, laying benders out on the ice, or at Chipotle eating a steak and barbacoa burrito. He also is known as the twitter extraordinaire due to his humorous and sometimes stupid tweets. Follow him @Forge_W_Bush. The kid also has the best style in the game. You can tell if it's him due to his matching outfits and vibrant colored sneakers. Not to mention he has better hair than Rapunzel. Whatever college gets this beaut will be graced with his presence next year. I'm glad to call him my co-pilot every morning to and from school and hockey, a member of the herd and lastly, my friend.

Rockin' a Wolf on Ya Noggin'

By **PAMELA RIOLES, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Swish, swish, swish." No, this is not the sound of the Boston Latin School Boys' Basketball team getting buckets, but rather the beautiful sound of the ever-stylish Bauer pants worn by the infamous BLS Girls' Hockey team. Known for their devilish good looks and their artillery of apparel, the girls run the hallways with their hands in their pockets and their hearts on their sleeves.

They are blessed with the presence of two townies on the team this year: an outstanding manager, Kenzie "Mono" Lane (II) and Bridgette "the Original Townie" Collier (II) holding it down on the blue line. "I know BCollz will defend me to the death in front of the net. She does it for Charlestown everyday on the ice," explains star goaltender Liz "Lamaggz" Lomuscio (II) who got her first shutout this year against Mount St. Joseph's Academy. Two more managers, Meghan "Who needs their stick taped?" Burns (I) and Regina "The Camera Won't Work" Riley (I) add an essential element to the team.

Let's not forget Dorchester's finest, Brenna Galvin, (III), the newest sophomore sensation. Leading the team in

goals, "BrennyBrenBren" is number 30 in terms of points in the division. This prodigy makes it look like slight work. "One time she punched me in the face... it was awesome," states Joyce "I'm the Only Sixie" Welch (VI), who is also one of the many fearless warriors protecting the blue line. Up and coming Rachel Tassinari (V) is a fiend in front of the net,



TOUGH ON THE ICE, EASY ON THE EYES

scoring the only goal against Andover, one of their toughest opponents. However, what's an army without its leader? Captain Mallory O'Brien (I) uses her six years of experience on the team to show the other girls how it's done. Take it from freshman Emma Curran (IV), "When I got myself stuck in the front stairs railing, Malfoy [Mallory] was the only one willing to help." This is only one of the many ways that Mal has contributed to the good of the team.

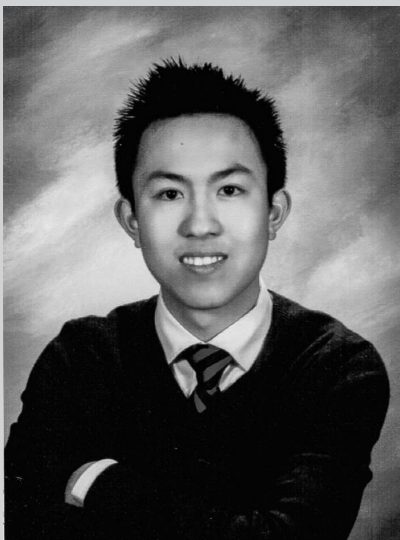
As for pregame rituals, the list goes on. You can spot them working hard (or

hardly working) in the Zone after school and crushing burritos at Boloco before their away bus comes 30 minutes late. These ladies have their own special set of phrases that you will likely hear in the halls or read on Twitter. Some of these include, "time for pracky," "sweet TJ," "ugh, the 9," "Beat Lowell!" and "do it for your city." They also have outrageous nicknames. What's Pill you ask? Probably the most trending hashtag you'll see on game days. Mallory O'Brien becomes "Moufy," Liz Lomuscio becomes "Lamaggz," and Erika Von den Benken (II) becomes "VDB."

The girl's hockey team is very diverse, with players hailing from all parts of Boston. Distance, however, does not come between them. Team breakfasts, dinners and everything in between are a weekly must. The time they spend together in frigid ice rinks is priceless. Jill "the ill part of Pill" Lydon (II) adds, "I like them better than I like my mom," followed quickly by her telepathic counterpart Pam "Pammerz" Rioles (II) exclaiming, "I was thinking that!"

Unfortunately, the hockey world, much like the real world, isn't always sunshine and rainbows. Being known as the underdogs isn't the easiest reputation to have, but they carry it with finesse and grace. They respect their opponents and only use their losses as motivation to do better. As a young team, they'll have plenty of time to dominate the Dual County League, but for now, they will continue to show heart and resilience and will leave it all on the ice.

Spotlight
Raymond Cen



By **ABDIRIZAK ABDI, I**
& **TRINA DO, I**
SPORTS EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

“HARVARD BIDDIES, HERE I COME!” screamed Raymond Cen down the hallway after his illustrious acceptance. Sporting a crimson hoodie plastered with an H the day after, he had a smile as wide as the Great Wall of China. He spent his summer in 2011 studying economics at Harvard Summer School and already has college credits to skip the first semester. He plans to stun all the Harvard women with his sharp fashion sense and charm. Although he has exemplary grades and a high SAT score, senioritis has struck its very first victim, Raymond B.A.D (it’s an enigma) Cen.

As a varsity track sprinter, Raymond has been dominating the track since eighth grade, earning the title “track star.” He runs with the “elite” track squad including Kevin Chen (I) and Mike Ward (I), trying to better himself every day through rigorous training. Despite his frequent injuries, he always manages to bounce back, and even has a personal record at Boston University this December on the 55 meter dash. He’s known for his confident and upbeat attitude, always trying to cheer up and support his fellow teammates.

Raymond’s favorite holiday is his birthday week, when Boston’s Restaurant Week takes place. His favorite restaurant is Ruth’s Chris, famous for its mouth-watering steaks, which Raymond likes medium-rare. If he is not eating, he is often shopping online for clothes at Banana Republic and Express. Eager to keep up with the latest fashion, he effortlessly swoons the ladies with his signature 100 percent cashmere scarf.

Ever since junior year, Raymond has made it a tradition to perform in the Asian Students In Action (A.S.I.A.) Sing Off. Known for his seductive stares into the audience, he sings melodically with Andrew Wang (I) and Anthony Cheung (I). Singing Britney Spears’ top hits “Toxic” and “Hold It Against Me” successfully drives the crowd wild with aphrodisia.

Last summer, he worked at Nixon Peabody as an intern researching a 30 million-dollar case, all the while getting paid a hefty nine dollars an hour. Despite his meager salary, he has made connections with people in high places that would surely give him a boost into Wall Street. Raymond also does things for free. One of his passions is social justice; he was involved with “InIt,” a social justice leadership program run by the YWCA. He was introduced to problems that are often ignored, such as locating inaccessible areas in Downtown Boston. He recently made a speech to the YWCA, speaking of the struggles that his immigrant parents have faced. All in all, Raymond is a natural born leader and a natural born heartthrob.

SPORTS
Buckets on Buckets

By **ASHLEY GUILLAUME, I**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The girls’ varsity basketball team has gotten off to a great start this year, completing the first half of the season with a 7-2 record. I REPEAT, THE GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM IS 7-2! Shocked?? Well don’t be. We all know that Latin School sports do not have the most illustrious reputation in the school and have been notorious for lacking in performance. The girls’ varsity basketball team, however, has been doing its very best to change that notion.

A huge key to their success is the chemistry which the girls have created out on the court. They all know each other’s strengths and weaknesses. They are finally showing some consistency, and if one player is having an off night, others will adamantly step up and pick up the slack. “I’m not surprised that we have been doing this well so far because we all work together like a true team, and despite multiple injuries, we have one of the best records in years,” says Junior Captain Maggie Mulligan. This is also one of the first years in a long time where the squad has had a balanced offensive attack, with Maggie “D1” Mulligan (II) averaging about 14.8 points per game, and Deirhile “Makin’ It Rain” Martin (I) draining a career high of 28 three-pointers this season. You would think that you were in the International House of Pancakes the way Temi “The Wall” Ashorobi (II) lays girls flat with her deadly screens and you better have the paramedics on standby because Alexis Taylor (II) is sure

to break a pair of ankles when she steps onto the court. And of course Ashley “Haitian \$en\$ation” Guillaume (I) and Mary “Swoosh Gang” Demoura (I) make it look easy out on the courts, barely breaking a sweat. Sophomore shooting guard Hilary Rocket is almost angelic as she drives to the basket with such ease, making it seem almost effortless. And if the shot’s not there, she knows that she can kick it out to Chessie “Chestnut” Cox (IV) or Lauren “Sailor” O’Shea (II) for the deep three. Their defensive intensity has significantly improved as well. In fact Junior Captain Bridget Walsh is known for putting top DCL scorers on lock down

over six years, and won the championship at the Winchester High Christmas Tournament. Now, by no means are they the fastest team, they are not the strongest, and even with Maggie they are probably still the shortest team in the entire DCL. They, however, have the want, hustle, desire and determination, and those are what have propelled the girls to this stellar record. They’ve got a chip on their shoulders, and that serves as motivation. The ladies have to remember that they are still the underdogs, and that they have to play every game like a playoff game; this is the key to a successful second half of the season. They must keep this mentality because their job is not complete. The squad set out this season with only one word in mind: playoffs, and they will not stop until that goal is reached. The girls know that to pick up that “W” they are always going to have to go a little harder, be a little bit quicker to every loose ball and want it a little bit more than their opponents.

The feeling of optimism and promise of the season is infectious and undeniable. Fans pack the stands on Friday nights to watch the Lady Wolfpack pounce on unsuspecting opponents. Teams once saw them on their schedule, and wrote them off as an easy win. Times have changed, and now they know that when they enter the wolf den, they have to come correct and ready for battle. Teams get flustered as they are caught off guard by the Lady Wolfpack’s intensity and improved skill. The team is finally getting the respect that it deserves and is being recognized as a dangerous threat. This year certainly marks the dawn of a new era for girls’ varsity basketball at Boston Latin School. They’re finally here, and they’re hungry.



NOT ONLY ARE THEY GREAT ATHLETES, THEY ARE GOOD SPORTS

with her tenacious defense, and no power forward in the league even has a minute chance of scoring on starting power forward Emerson Boone (II).

The team motto this year is simple: “Stay Hungry.” This newfound success has not come easily. They have put in a lot of work during the offseason and practiced hard for two hours, six days a week, no shorts and no days off. Clearly all of this hard work is paying off, as they have already picked up a win against Lincoln-Sudbury, a team they have not beaten in

Swimmin’ Like Villains

By **JOSHUA JOHNSON, II**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“H2O: Two parts Heart and one part Obsession.” Swimming is not just a sport but a lifestyle. Even though the Boys Swim Team is not going to win any Dual County League (DCL) championships anytime soon, what they lack in skill they make up for in teamwork, enthusiasm and dashing good looks. Led by our captains Victor Vuong (I), Fouad Baghdad-Zougagh (I) and Patrick Sossou (I) the BLS Swim Team has more devotion and spirit than any team in the DCL. Their jokes and good humor keep the team afloat through the season with smiles on their faces. Our coach is the legendary Bruce Conely, who has been coaching the BLS Girls Swim Team and BLS Boys Swim Team for longer than he can remember. Coach Conely is one of the greatest men I know, and his constant push and occasional comical fables keep them moving forward, whether it is in the

pool or out.

Leading the team are the two star swimmers Thomas Worthy (II) and Joshua Johnson (II). Their hard work and

free (00:22:80), 100 butterfly (00:54:78), 100 back (00:57:56) and 100 breaststroke (1:07:12).

Every year we get a new group of swimmers to fill in the spots of the seniors who have left. This season was no different. We got a great batch of rising stars such as Miles Black (III), Alex Su (IV) and Carlos Cabral (V) who will help build the foundations for our team in the future.

We members of the swim team are not going to walk away from this season with medals around our necks and pictures from the winner’s podium. What we are going to walk away with are smiles on our faces, an accomplished feeling in our hearts and chiseled abs and pectorals. We will always remember the Fridays of water polo and basketball, the image of Patrick Sossou charging at us wearing only a speedo and the secret trips to Stop & Shop across the street from the pool. May the traditions and good times continue as the seniors leave and pass the traditions and responsibilities to the juniors. As the honorable Sossou might say “...Y-y-yeahhhh.”



THE FISH

determination during practices have helped the team place first and second in some races. Thomas Worthy has made sectionals in almost every event. In their last meet he beat Concord-Carlisle’s best swimmer in one of the most gut-wrenching events, the 500 freestyle (20 laps back and forth), with a time of 5:10:45, qualifying for both states and sectionals. Along with that, he has qualified for both the 200 individual medley (2:00:56), 200 free (1:50:88), 100 free (00:49:67), 50

SPORTS

Setting a New Pace

By **RAYMOND CEN, I**
& **ANTHONY CHEUNG, I**
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

“The real purpose of running isn't to win a race; it's to test the limits of the human heart,” legendary track coach Bill Bowerman once said. Without a doubt,

time of 36.23 seconds. In addition, he has qualified for the New Balance Indoors Nationals in two different events, the 60 meter and 200 meter dashes. Anthony has also had a breakout season, placing fourth in the DCL for the 55 meter and 300 meter dash with a time of 6.77 seconds and 36.91 seconds respectively.

in both the 55 meter dash (7.64 seconds) and the 300 meter sprint (43.58 seconds), which is enough to place her fifth among the DCL. With two more years to go, the youngest DCL All-Star on the team has yet to show her best performance. In her second year, rising star Andrea Hatzis (IV) placed ninth in the DCL with a 55



REGGIE LEWIS, HOME OF THE WOLFPACK

the heart of the Boston Latin School Track and Field team has truly been tested, suffering a string of winless seasons. As I stepped onto the track at the Reggie Lewis Center this season, however, I had a visceral feeling that the streak would end this year.

Under the leadership of captains Anthony Cheung (I), Dayo Hall (I), Emma Henderson (I) and Michael Ward (I), the track team has turned things around. “Our team is doing incredible this year and we’re very fortunate to have a deep roster of seniors, as well as a decent sized talent pool of juniors and underclassmen to keep the track team competitive at the Division I level,” Anthony says as he prepares for an intense practice.

The girls’ team has accumulated a record of three wins and one loss, while the boys were dealt two losses before turning it around at the start of the new year with two wins. The Wolfpack will face Boston Latin Academy when they revisit the Boston Public Schools League on January 28. The season concludes with a meet against Weston on February 1 and the Dual County Championships on February 9.

This season has been one of exhilarating performances. Kevin Chen (I) shattered the Dual County League (DCL) 55 meter dash record with a time of 6.56 seconds and broke the school record for the 300 meter sprint with a

Michael, a member of the team for all six years of his Boston Latin tenure, reminisces about the good times he has had. “These last six years have gone by so fast, and I never thought I would ever go this far with running, but I’m so thankful for where it has taken me. I’ve met a lot of really great people and some of my best friends have been made at track practice.” A consistently outstanding performer, he currently leads the DCL with a mile time of four minutes and 32 seconds.

The experience and the depth of the track team show its true strength. Michael Sitcawich (I) and Benjamin Shanahan (I) switch sprinting events interchangeably from one meet to the next in order to secure team wins. In addition, George Liu-Krason (II), Kris Ule (IV) and a dedicated JV squad ensure that boys sprinting will have very few problems rebuilding next year. As Oussama Hamouti (I) and Thomas Casey (I) complete their final season of indoor track with strong performances, a new wave of distance runners will provide easy transition for many years to come with Yuta Belmont (V) on pace to become a serious threat in the DCL.

Veterans Denise Yoon (I) and Kennedy Barnwell (III) lead the girls’ sprinting team. Denise placed tenth in 55 meter dash with a time of 7.91 seconds. Kennedy has shown steady improvement over the season, with a personal record

meter time of 7.88 seconds.

Led by coach Ocean-Callum, the girls’ distance team has had a standout year and will continue their dominance in one of the toughest leagues in Massachusetts. Twins Ava Violich (II) and Francesca Violich (II), as well as twins Grace O’Brien (III) and Alannah O’Brien (III), have beaten team after team in their dominant season. Another standout, Sarah Kiamie (V), has demonstrated that effort trumps experience, breezing past girls older than her by four or five years and training with a work ethic that will no doubt carry her far on and off the track.

As the current generation hands the baton off to the next one, the future looks promising. Head coach Michael Meagher comments, “There are many young talents on the team and I’ve seen a lot of improvements as they train hard.” Mr. Meagher has coached many generations of Boston Latin track, winning the Coach of the Year Award in 2009, developing young students into athletes each year.

As I look backwards, something that I was taught to never do at track, I am able to fully appreciate what track has meant to everybody. It has been an amazing run for the seniors, who have patiently waited each year for their turn to lead the team. As we all make the turn onto the final stretch, we remind each other the most important lesson from track – always finish strong.

Spotlight

Mallory O'Brien



By **MEGHAN BURNS, I**
& **JILL LYDON, II**
& **BRENNA GALVIN, III**
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

On January 10, 1995, Mama Kim and Miguel were graced with a child on their doorstep. This child, swaddled in clothing and lying in a manger, was soon to be known as Malfoy, Moufy, Malfie, Malzone, Mallob, Maldawgs or as some say “Mallory” O’Brien. She truly was the second coming. From day one of her life, Malfoy has been hustling the streets of the West Side, but it wasn’t the streets that made her; Moufy made the streets. While overcoming a tough childhood, Mallory had to endure countless attacks from her sister, ranging from the time she placed a bucket on Mal’s head in a ruthless attempt to suffocate her to the time she threw a baseball at her head, thinking this would shut her up. Naturally, that would never work; Moufy simply fueled off this negativity, throwing her threes all the way to the bank.

Mal’s talents, however, didn’t abruptly end at rapping. Mallory’s interests changed from being the star of the St. Theresa’s school plays to being an All-Star of Latin’s hockey and softball team. Not only were her talents in both sports recognized, but also her leadership skills, which elected her to become captain of both. How did she get so good you ask? Some may say she worked for it, some may say she used every spell she learned at Hogwarts, some may say Bobby Orr is her biological father, but in reality she emerged from humble beginnings just like the rest of us. Many moons ago, on an evening in ‘97, the lime found her light. Young Mallory was left to fend for herself when Miguel left the soon-to-be prodigy alone and abandoned at center ice—this is where it all began. Not only is Mal a star athlete, she’s also a twinning All-Star with baseball’s own, Malcolm Nakamhoweveryou spell it (I). In tenth grade, Ms. Kilbourn and Mr. Long teamed up and decided to place Mal-squared next to one another in those two classes and the rest is all history. #Bestfriends.

In the eighth grade, Coach Holland decided that Malob would be a great addition to the softball pack. Every day, Malf practiced her hacky sack skills and Big D, and all her hard work paid off when Coach Holland picked her as the big bad V-Squad’s starting left fielder in tenth grade. Her days on the Mosquitoes tee-ball team and Diamondbacks instructional baseball team finally paid off when she was picked as a Dual County League All-Star in the 2012 season. Moufy is sadly wrapping up her last season on the girls’ hockey team, but she will transition into Captain Malob over in the Thunderdome for the spring. It is clear that Malzone excels on the ice and on the diamond, and we know that wherever Maldawgs continues her education in college, she will excel in the classroom as well. Best of luck Mallory. Love, The Pups.

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